

The World of Personal Number Plates

Volume 1, Issue 2

# Regtransfers

.co.uk

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# Letters

Send your letters to:  
*The Editor, Regtransfers*  
139, High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3SS



## BRILLIANT WEBSITE

I am writing to thank you for the swift arrival of your 'World of Number Plates' magazine. I ordered it online yesterday and received it the next day!

Also, I would like to congratulate Regtransfers on their brilliant website. My father is looking at buying a personalised number plate, and he is continually using your website as it is very easy to use and it is always updated so he can find what he is looking for.

ASH DAVIES  
*Geddington, Northants.*

## ACRYLIC PLATE SERVICE

Just wanted to drop you a note to compliment the company on it's excellent service. This is the second set of plates I have bought from Regtransfers and this time it was for my car. At the time, I also had the plates made up but when I received them I had failed to realise that the back plate on my car was a larger size than standard. I phoned Regtransfers and was phoned back almost instantly by the person who actually makes up the plates. As a result I received a replacement rear plate within 48 hours. This is the highest level of service I have received in years and I have no hesitation in recommending your company to my friends and colleagues.

MATTHEW PITT  
*Address supplied*

## WARM WELCOME

Thank you for all the help you gave me in getting **8656 KH**. I must have phoned you up about four times about it, and each time I got a warm welcome. Thank you again.

K HORWOOD  
*St. Columb, Cornwall*



## MADE A DIFFERENCE

I refer to my recent purchase of number plate **N3 TPB**. I would like to thank you for the quick and efficient way this purchase was dealt with and as requested I enclose a photograph of the vehicle with the new plate. It certainly has made a difference to the look of the vehicle. Thank you once again.

TONY BROOKS  
*Horley, Surrey*

## I WAS BLOWN AWAY!

Just a quick note to say that I was blown away to receive my acrylic plates in the post this morning. I only ordered them yesterday afternoon!

Top marks on customer service.

HUMPHREY GERVAIS  
*Windsor, Berkshire*

## PLATE OVERSHADOWS CAR

It's not often (actually never!) that I write and sing the praises of a company - however after my recent experience with Regtransfers I feel it's only right that I share our experience. Having looked at a few registration services on the web, my wife and I arrived at your site via google.co.uk

We're recently married and were delighted to find our plate **G5 AMO** on your site. We'd splashed out on a VW Polo as a present to each other - what a fantastic bonus the plate was (actually overshadowing the car). What a first class service. We're impressed! Our registration is a major talking point amongst our friends and neighbours.

Good luck for the future (although you are hardly likely to need it!)

ALAN MOORE  
*Glasgow*

## I CAN'T BELIEVE IT

Thank you once again for a first class service. I just cannot believe that I managed to get **N33 LYY** for such a low price.

ROBERT NEELY  
*Ardrossan, North Ayrshire*



# Guy 'Fawkes out' for Fantastic Fireworks plate

When Jon Culverhouse, Managing Director of the Luton based company, Fantastic Fireworks, bought the number plate **5 NOV**, he knew what a great asset it would be.

"I am always looking for inventive ways to advertise and promote my company, and having a personalised number plate is an excellent way of achieving that," said Jon. 'I contacted Regtransfers and was offered **8 ANG** (Bang), but I wanted a plate that more clearly encapsulated what Fantastic Fireworks is all about, like **NOV 5**."

"They advised me that this plate had never been issued, but by coincidence **5 NOV** had just come onto their books. I was so lucky! It's the sort of plate that will be a collector's item. I was pleasantly surprised at the price as well, I was expecting to pay much more. We often have TV crews turning up who want to film me with the car because of the registration mark - the plate really has paid for itself. We have even named our website [www.5nov.com](http://www.5nov.com)!"

Fantastic Fireworks often supplies very high profile occasions such as the recent Superbikes Championships at Brands Hatch. Shortly before that, their services were required at the exclusive Highclere Castle for the wedding of a very high profile international football player.

They have even been asked to go to Paris to give the new Eurostar high-speed rail link a rip-roaring welcome as the first train arrives at the Gare du Nord!

The Millennium celebrations, Big Brother finale, the last night of Wembley Stadium and even the celebrations at Old Trafford when Manchester United won their third consecutive Premiership title are just a few of the previous occasions that Fantastic Fireworks have been called upon to dazzle the crowds with their amazing displays of fireworks. The Company's core customer base ranges from retail, weddings, private parties, corporate events and football matches.

"The 5th November is like Christmas to us, we are always incredibly busy. We'll be staging displays across the

country, firing some 150 shows in the space of a couple of weeks. A 5-minute display will have taken around 54 hours to plan - from initial consultation through to planning, design, fusing, packing, loading, set-up and execution."

With over 17 years experience, we take pride in ensuring that displays are not only spectacular, but safe as well. Safety kit such as barrier tape, helmet, safety goggles, overalls and a safety video can all be bought directly from Fantastic Fireworks. Training courses are also available. Many questions such as: "Do I need a license?", "Who should I notify?", "Where can I hold a display?" and the all important "What if it rains?", are all answered on the Fantastic Fireworks website.

[www.5nov.com](http://www.5nov.com)

Tel 01582 485555





# A word from the RNC

by Rod Lomax

The Registration Numbers Club was founded in 1977 and is the only UK-based club for enthusiasts and those passionately interested in cherished or personalised vehicle registration numbers. Members benefit from a quarterly newsletter, *RNC News*, which is *the* original independent club publication prepared at the RNC office in

Leeds, plus an annual dinner and rally held at various venues around the country. This summer the club held its rally for the second year at popular Stanford Hall in Leicestershire on Sunday 22 June and held a celebratory dinner the previous evening at the Denbigh Arms Hotel in nearby Lutterworth.



The evening function had twenty four members and guests enjoying fine hospitality. Good food and wine with an excellent mix of company is always a recipe for success and this event was no exception. An informal affair, the dinner was a great starter to the weekend which was about having fun and in which everyone joined in with enthusiasm.

The following morning dawned fine, bright and warm and the rally site at Stanford Hall, which

had been prepared the day before, soon began to fill up with vehicles, many having driven considerable distances to be there. Picnic baskets bursting with goodies were soon opened and the sound of clinking glasses filled the air as members relaxed in the warm sunshine. We had been fortunate enough to arrange sponsorship for various rally

costs from two of our dealer members and from a local building company and this helped with the not inconsiderable expense of putting on an event such as this.

We also had several quality raffle prizes donated and managed to raise more funds from this source. As usual entrants had been split up into various classes such as No.1's, names, initials, amusing, pairs, classics etc. and a self-voting system was in operation to ensure there was no favouritism.

Prizes were awarded in the various classes during the afternoon in the fine weather which just about managed to hold on, despite threatening storm clouds, until the end of the day.

It was pleasing to see many long-standing members

attending along with several new ones rallying for their first time. The venue reported that over 120 people had passed through the gate on the day and we are grateful to our small army of helpers for their assistance.

Our presence at the earlier CNDA rally at Woburn and the clubs new website: [www.registrationnumbersclub.org.uk](http://www.registrationnumbersclub.org.uk) on which many Rally'03 photographs are currently displayed, has generated much interest in the RNC and we are pleased to have recruited many more new members as a result.

Several interested visitors came to both rallies and took away literature: we hope this will lead to a further increase in membership in due course.

In 2004 the RNC rally will more than likely move its venue - possibly further west or maybe back to Yorkshire - a decision has yet to be made so watch this space for more information.

For further information on the RNC please contact:

**Steve Waldenberg**  
Honorary Organising Secretary

**RNC Office**  
**P O Box MT12**  
**Leeds LS17 7UD.**

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# Ladybird is easily spotted!



When **Lord Brett McLean** of Hastings inherited a company called **Ladybird Photography**, he soon realised that the car that came as part of the deal was by no means ordinary - a Ford Ka with red and black spots inside and out to be precise!

It even has its own personal number plate, **P777 BUG**!

Lord Brett was amazed to learn of the rather bizarre stories

surrounding this young East Sussex company.

For instance, when the former owner died, he was buried in Hastings cemetery in plot 777!

Stranger still, the Ford Ka took its name from 'divine spirit' and again coincidence or not, the previous owner's surname was Casper (as in the fictional ghost).

Even more incredible, the Ladybird car was 'blessed' by

The Rt. Rev. Mick Haines (Bishop of Rock 'N' Roll for the Rock 'N' Roll Loony Party) in the middle of Hastings Town Centre in the exact position where HM The Queen stood one year before when she officially opened the new shopping centre.

Lord Brett said, "The Ladybird vehicle with its distinctive plate is probably the best form of advertising around, because it is easily spotted!"





# CNDA Rally 2003 at Woburn Abbey



## Celebrating 100 years of UK Car Registrations

To mark the centenary of the British registration system, the RMI's Cherished Numbers Dealers Association (CNDA) held a centenary rally at Woburn Abbey, Bedfordshire on Sunday 18th May 2003.

A fun day was had by all with over 50 top class trophies won.

Alistair Manson, RMI's cherished numbers dealers director, said "Everyone had a wonderful time, but it was not just an excuse for a party. It was at the end of the 1960s when a handful of people started trading registration numbers.

"The Department of Transport referred to these traders as 'cherished number dealers'. A trade association was established in 1971 and most of the large dealers today are members of the CNDA."



Tony Green with his replica of the Chitty Chitty Bang Bang car which he built over 2 years. He was delighted to find the plate GEN 22 with Regtransfers.





# Standing **out** from the crowd

Mike Muller from Aberdeen decided to treat himself to a personal plate for his Toyota Land cruiser to make it easier to find in a car park! He chose **H10 MRM**.

"When I retired, I treated myself to a new silver Ford Focus TDCI but the new registration numbers are so stupid that I could never remember it. There are so many silver ones that it makes finding your car even harder.

"To resolve this problem I went to the Regtransfers website and looked for a number with my initials, MRM with the number 10 included. I found **N10 MRM**. It was all very easy and quick to arrange."

Whilst driving to the airport with his wife some time after, they passed a motor home with a private plate. Mike realised that this was exactly what their own motor home needed to finish it off. He rang Regtransfers again and was told that there were just three plates left with MRM and the number 10.

"I decided on **G10 MRM** and went off to America on holiday. By the time I returned the plates had been delivered and all I had to do was change the tax disc and screw the plates on.

"I think that in a world where everyone is labelled, tagged, boxed or numbered etc by the

state and made to feel that we are all part of a common herd, it is nice to be able to stand out a little and show that we are all different.

"When you purchase a car you have so many choices to make, why not also choose your own number?"



## Registration Forum

Write to: John Harrison, 175 Hillyfields, Loughton, Essex, IG10 2PW and mark your envelope 'Registration Forum'.

### *Your Number Plate questions answered*

**Q:** I'm interested in tracing the origins of my number plate. How do I go about this?

**Graham Baskerville**

**A:** Tracing a history - DVLA takes the view that providing information about the history of a mark is a breach of the Data Protection Act. This does not necessarily mean that you cannot find out more about the history of your number, provided it is one issued by a local authority for which records survive. You need to get hold of a copy of the book *How to Trace the History of Your Car* by Philip Riden (Merton Priory Press - ISBN: 1-898937-25-7) and see if your mark is from such an authority.

If it is, you can then contact the office which has the records and find out whatever information they

have on its history. If, however, your mark is from one for which the records have since been destroyed or even one issued after DVLC was established in October 1974, obviously you will be stymied.

**Q:** SL1 and SL2 were the first two numbers of a place called Clackmannanshire in Scotland. At one time it was the smallest county, with the most historical places in Scotland.

I was at London Heathrow and saw SL1 on a car that was from the Sierra-Leone Embassy. Do you know when this number was sold?

**Egil Schmidt**

**A:** The Sri Lankan (not Sierra Leone) ambassador's car is in

fact 1 SL, not SL 1. Most embassies in London have a specially-issued cherished number on their ambassador's car and other diplomatic staff have cars with nnn D nnn or nnn X nnn registrations, where 'n' represents a single-digit number. SL 1, SL 2 etc. up to SL 9179 were issued by Clackmannanshire before the authority went onto year letters in 1964.

Incidentally, I am not sure on what basis you say Clackmannanshire was the smallest county in Scotland, whether by population, area or what. If a number of registrations issued before going onto year letters is the criterion, Kinrosshire was the smallest authority as it only reached SV 3722 before going on to year letters also in 1964.

Whilst we always endeavour to give a correct answer, neither J. Harrison nor Registration Transfers Ltd can accept liability for errors.



# Madejski's

**J**ohn Madejski OBE isn't a man who does things by halves. Best known in recent years for his recovery of the beleaguered Reading Football Club, he has built the impressive state-of-the-art, 25,000-seater stadium, together with its own plush four star deluxe Millennium Madejski Hotel, conference centre, spa and highly acclaimed 'Cilantro' restaurant.

John's business career began over thirty years ago when he

founded the highly successful AutoTrader, which he sold in 1998 for around £250m. He has now extended his business interests across the globe.

So how does this understated entrepreneur enjoy his money? One of his favourite luxuries is undoubtedly his cars. He currently has a modest ten, including some of the finest names in the motoring world - Bentley, Ferrari, Rolls Royce and Jaguar. And with the cars of course, comes

the ultimate accessory - personal registration numbers.

"I'm certainly not fanatical about number plates, but I do see them as an essential finishing touch to any prestigious car. If you see a Rolls Royce for instance with an ordinary number, it just doesn't look as good as if it had a personal plate. Unfortunately the cars do depreciate in value over the years and the plates end up





# finishing touches



being worth far more than the cars!" And, with the second most popular initials in the country, John's collection of plates is certainly enviable; **JM 1** proudly adorns a Rolls Royce Limousine, **1 JM** a Rolls Royce

Corniche, **JM 2**, a Jaguar XJ 220, **JM 19**, a Bentley Continental, **B1 BYE**, a yellow AC Cobra and **TGF 140** is on a Jaguar XK 140.

John bought his first plate, **1 JM**, at auction in the 1980's for a whacking £60k.

"Then a friend told me they'd seen B1 BYE in the Sunday Times. I thought it was a bit of fun so I bought that and put it on my black Bentley Continental. Unfortunately the police didn't find it as amusing as I did and kept pulling me up to question me about it," he said.

His third and fourth plates were acquired quite by accident, after some friends of John's came over from Malta. He arranged to have dinner with Jennifer and Paddy Stubbs at the Savoy. He picked them up in the Rolls

which had the number **1 JM** assigned to it.

"Jennifer looked at the car very strangely, so I asked her if anything was wrong. She told me that she thought 1 JM was her father's plate. I replied that he probably had JM 1 (as her father was John Moore of the Littlewoods empire). I said to her that if he was ever interested in selling it, that I would be interested in buying it from him. Unfortunately John Moore died soon after, but Jennifer, true to her word offered the plate to me. He'd also owned JM 2 so I bought both plates for around £80k."

With John's sense of fun it might not be long before a nice little number like **R10 YLE** appears at the Madejski Stadium for his Reading 'Royals.' As John gingerly admits, he does like to trawl through the lists of numbers in the Sunday Times each week

By Ruby Speechley





# Hanwells hire in Style

**When searching for a prestigious car like a Rolls Royce or Bentley, you'd be a fool to overlook the vast choice offered by Hanwells of London.**

For more than two decades they have specialised in selling these luxurious motors. Indeed, The Mail on Sunday proclaimed Hanwells as "The biggest outlet of second-hand Rolls Royce's and Bentleys in the country."

"We offer a complete service and can cater for anyone at any time," says Stephen Brown, founder and proprietor of Hanwells. "Many of our high profile clients want to buy a vehicle with a personal plate on it for that all important finishing touch.

"We have several personal plates of our own, such as **R1 LEN**. They look fantastic on the cars in our showroom. We are always happy to source a suitable number plate from dealers such as Registration

Transfers, who deal with all the paperwork so that the client can drive away with the car of their dreams."

When you visit the showrooms on the Uxbridge Road in Hanwell, you can expect

return to us each time they want to change their model or specifications," he said.

Stephen started the company back in 1975 because of his passion for the Rolls Royce and Bentley marques.



impeccable service every time. "Our customer service and after sales care is of paramount importance to us. It is our pleasure to consistently satisfy all of our client's requirements. Many are regular buyers who

"My main objective then and now is to supply pre-owned Rolls Royce and Bentley Motor Cars to a very select clientele. In more recent years I have come to realise that there are many people who, whilst in love



# HANWELLS of LONDON

W7 3ST

with these magnificent automobiles, do not need to actually own one to enjoy them. The solution to this occasional requirement is self-drive hire, which we now offer."

Hiring a Rolls Royce or a Bentley is popular for any special occasion, whether you are planning to attend a business meeting, conference or purely for enjoyment, why not do it in style? It seems to be

an especially popular 50th or 60th surprise birthday present for a loved one.

"We had one rather unusual request where a man wanted to

hire a car for the week to park outside his factory. He only drove thirty miles in it!

I think he wanted to impress some guests from overseas." What a very stylish way of doing it.

On top of this, Hanwells offer a unique facility for personalising and restoring these remarkable motors. Their dedicated master craftsmen can tailor any vehicle using the finest Connolly leathers and real wood veneers.

A team of in-house, highly skilled engineers ensure that all of their cars are thoroughly examined and serviced prior to delivery.



**Hanwells Car Centre**  
**The Broadway**  
**86-91 Uxbridge Road**  
**London W7 3ST**

[www.hanwells.com](http://www.hanwells.com)



# Memorable plate for a Honda S2000



Professor Simon Thompson was thinking about buying a Honda S2000 for some time and wanted the right number plate to go with it.

"I have recently published a self-help book called *Memory Problems* through working with patients who have a poor memory and my extensive research on the sorts of memory problems that people encounter.

"Finding a plate that was 'memorable' was such an obvious choice for me really!"

Simon trawled through the number plate adverts for months, searching for a plate. He came across the plate **S 2000** in a Regtransfers list in *Top Gear* magazine.

"I couldn't believe it was **S 2000**. I'd seen combinations of '000' on cars and 'S20' together with '0' and another letter - but this was remarkable! Even the DVLA had to double-check to see if three zeros was permissible."

Simon says he loves the car and has had a lot of fun

watching people's reactions to the number. "One person reversed all the way back into the car park to have a second look before he realised I was still in the driving seat!"

He says he may now part with the plate for the right offer.

Simon's book, *Memory Problems* is published by Oxford Press, Chichester.





# Austin 7 finds original plate

Michael Aplin couldn't believe it when he saw his car's original number plate up for sale with Regtransfers.



Michael said: "I bought my Austin 7 1930 Box Saloon in 1997 when she had an age related number plate. The previous owner had made enquiries and discovered that the original registration number was **WP 55**.

"At the same time I was told this, I saw it for sale with Regtransfers! Unfortunately it was on the market for several thousand pounds, which I considered excessive and did not pursue the matter further. I regularly checked on it and saw that it remained for sale over the following year. During this time I also made enquiries which confirmed that my car had originally been registered in Worcester.

"Twelve months later I noted that the number was no longer advertised

and I regretted bitterly that the opportunity to reunite my car and her original number had been lost - probably forever.

"However, four weeks later I noticed that the plate was for sale again, and had increased in price. I rang the following morning and purchased this very special number!

"Since then the re-uniting of my classic car with her original number plate has brought considerable pleasure to my wife and I, though at the expense of our childrens' inheritance! Now that both car and number plate have been reunited, they will never again be parted whilst they remain in our possession."

## Campbell car and plate back together again



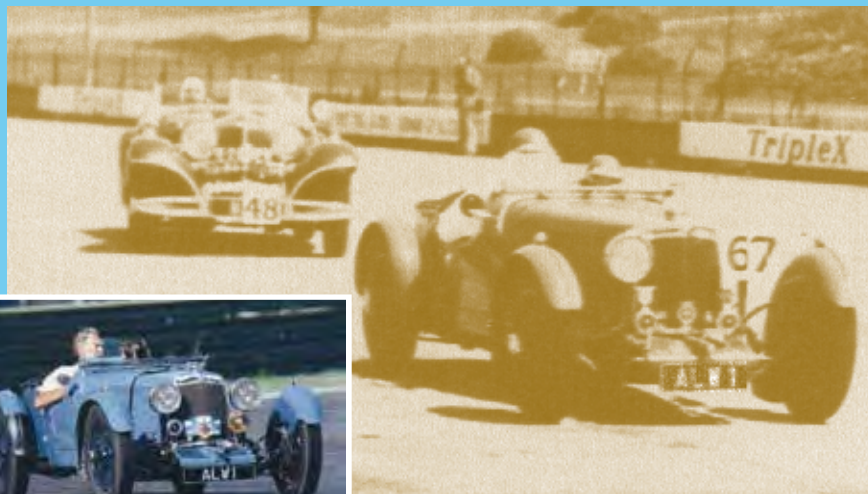
Three years ago, Phillip Haslam from Derbyshire bought and imported a 1933 Aston Martin le Mans from St. Louis, Missouri.

Phillip said, "The car was purchased new by Sir Malcolm Campbell shortly after he took the World Land Speed Record. Apparently Malcolm Campbell always chose a registration number with the figure '1' in it and he always had his cars painted Bluebird Blue to match his original car.

"When the car arrived in England it came complete with the plate **ALW 1**, but I later discovered that, as the car had been in America since early in the 1960's the number had long since lapsed.

"Through the DVLA, I discovered that ALW 1 was owned by someone else, but they were not prepared to release any details to me. At the time I was somewhat disappointed as I was keen that the number should be reunited with the car.

"One Sunday, in mid-August, for some unknown reason I happened to glance



at the registration numbers in *The Sunday Times* - for no particular reason whatsoever (I had never really thought of looking there previously).

"Imagine my surprise when the registration **ALW 1** leapt out of the page at me - from in amongst the

thousands of numbers that Regtransfers were advertising - it really did seem such incredible fate that the number was available for sale at the one time in my life that I have ever looked at the adverts. Happily now, the car is reunited with its original number."

Has **YOUR** car been reunited with it's original registration?  
Are you looking for a particular plate that has some special significance to you?  
If so, tell us about it and we may be able to help.  
Simply email: [rick@regtransfers.co.uk](mailto:rick@regtransfers.co.uk)





# UK's No. 1 accessory company collects their own



In 1995, a charismatic entrepreneur called Nasa Khan, started *The Accessory People*, with just £2,000. Eight years later TAP, as it is more commonly known, has grown into the UK's leading high-tech accessory company with a turnover exceeding £340 million.

By 1995 Nasa had opened two One2One mobile phone shops. "At the time mobiles were mainly used for business but, with more and more consumers buying them, I realised that people wanted to stamp their personality on them," he says. Much the same reason Nasa

next month to come around when the next car will be handed down, and we are talking the latest models of Ferraris, Porsches, Bentleys etc. And with each car having a unique TAP number plate, the cars look even more distinctive. "Some of the numbers they currently have are: **TAP 4X, 2 TAP, 8 TAP, SS51 TAP, X7 TAP, B051 TAP, DE51 TAP, Y3 TAP, B51 TAP and X2 TAP.**"

The impressive line up of silver cars outside their premises in Surrey is a mark of the TAP's incredible growth spurt over the last three years.

At just 29 years old, Nasa Khan was voted Entrepreneur of the year in 2001 by The Department of Trade & Industry in conjunction with The Bank of England, and in 2002 he received the National Business Award for most successful 'Entrepreneur of the Year', receiving a congratulatory letter from The Rt. Hon. Iain Duncan Smith MP.



Nasa puts much of his success down to his dedicated team and firmly believes that a company's workforce must share a vision.

"I learned the value of reputation at University and that's inspired me to create a sense of ownership and pride among my team and partners."

Nasa says he started coming up with ideas for money-making ventures whilst studying economics in the early 1990's.

now loves to purchase the ultimate accessory for his cars - personalised number plates.

Nasa freely admits that his passion for cars is his only indulgence – he doesn't drink or smoke. He happily shares out his cars to his staff once he's test driven them, letting them choose a TAP plate with their initials.

"The cars and plates are a reward for the team's hard work and excellence. They can't wait for the

[www.theaccessorypeople.com](http://www.theaccessorypeople.com)





# Mitchell's 'Minstrel' Memories



George Mitchell, who fronted television's most popular light entertainment show of the 1960's, *The Black and White Minstrel Show*, owned the number plate **GM 16** for over 50 years. George sadly died in August 2002, aged 85. His wife Dorothy says that the time has come to sell his beloved plate and Nottingham Green Rolls Royce Corniche.

"Being a Scotsman, George decided to apply to the local Scottish Council and was told that the Provost had **GM 1** but was offered any other number - he decided to pick **GM 16** because at that time he had 16 singers in his choir. George so loved his Rolls that it was only ever used for high days and holidays.

He was a car enthusiast throughout his life and in the early days of his success bought several cars, which he always said he should have hung on to as they became very valuable. Each car carried **GM 16**, making them very individual to him," said his wife Dorothy.

Mitchell was an unlikely entertainer - an accountant by trade, he was assigned to the Pay Corps when war broke out. But it was during his time there that Mitchell created an army choir, an interest that stemmed from his Grandfather's involvement in choral singing.

Although he wasn't a singer himself, Mitchell quickly showed a talent for composing, conducting and arranging music. This first ensemble known as

*The Swing Group* became so popular that it was booked for the BBC's *Variety Bandbox*.

The success continued and in 1957 when BBC producer, George Inns, devised the format for *The Black and White Minstrel Show*, he asked Mitchell to front it.

The revival of this well-established style of entertainment ensured the show became a huge audience-puller.



conductor, had his back to the audience until he turned to face the camera at the end of every show.

The history of the 'Minstrel' show goes back to the first half of the 19th century in America's deep south when impersonations of blacks given by white actors was popular entertainment.

American vaudeville developed from this, making songs like 'Mammy' and

'The Swanee River' firm favourites and singers like Al Jolson into stars. In Britain, the popularity grew through its own music-hall performers like G. H. Elliot.

The show transferred to the London stage, running at the Victoria Palace Theatre for 10 years, even after the end of the television series.

In 1975, the 17-year-old Lenny Henry became the first black performer to appear in the show. The 22-year run on television ended after popular opinion deemed the 'blacking up' of the male performers was offensive to black people.

The show's highest recorded viewing figures were 16.5 million in 1964. The show won the prestigious 'Golden Rose of Montreux' in 1961 for the 'Best TV Show in the World'. George received the O.B.E. in 1975.

*Ruby Speechley*

A mixture of sing-along and dance was interspersed with comic exchanges from the likes of Leslie Crowther, Stan Stennett and George Chisholm, amongst others.

Apart from the three main singers, Tony Mercer, John Boulter and Dai Francis, the troupe were made up of the *George Mitchell Minstrels* and a group of female singers and dancers known as *The Television Toppers* and *Mitchell Maids*. Mitchell himself, as







# Now you can talk to us **24 hours** **7 days** a week

Our friendly, helpful sales advisers are fully trained in every aspect of **personal number plates** and are here to help choose the right registration for YOU.

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