

The World of Personal Number Plates

Regtransfers

Volume 2, Issue 2

.co.uk

Good Lord!

and a number plate to match



Also in this issue:

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M3 Dream Come True

Extra horsepower



Busman's Holiday

Bus driver Bernard Jefford recently celebrated 40 years in the public transport service. When he retired at Christmas he treated himself to a most appropriate personal number plate **BJ02 BUS**

Not only does it represent his initials but also his occupation.

Bernard keeps in contact by working one day a week for National Express as a duty Manager for their Rail Replacement Unit, controlling 90 coaches covering the West Coast Rail line when it is closed for maintenance.

"I found my personal number online and was given every assistance by Regtransfers to make it go through smoothly," said Bernard.

In the picture below, Bernard (*right*) meets up with driver Chris Plummer who is a regular on the National Express 450 route between Mansfield and London.

Chris was 'cock-a-hoop' with Bernard's registration and is determined to get one for himself.

Bernard, who travels the M1 between Nottingham and London, concludes: "The number plate is getting recognised by National Express drivers who acknowledge it with a bit of headlight flashing."





Letters & emails

Write to:
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VERY PROFESSIONAL MANNER

It is very unusual for me to write to companies because for the most part there aren't many good things to say, however in this instance I think that it is appropriate that I put pen to paper.

I was presented with a computer for the first time, having previously no interest whatsoever, but after a crash course I somehow managed to get to grips with the mouse (so to speak) and got onto the Internet.

The first web page that I got on was yours and I must say that I was both surprised and delighted with the contents, layout and general ease with which I was able to find what I wanted.

Having been thinking about having my own personal plate for a very long time, the only decision I had to make was which one! After much debate and thought I finally made my choice.

When I telephoned you I spoke to your operator, Vaughan Cameron, and I must say that his friendly, helpful and very professional manner impressed me. He certainly deserves a pat on the back for his efforts and my thanks.

You can rest assured that in the future I shall be ringing your praises to everybody who cares to listen.

Thank you again and to say that I am the proud owner of my new personal number plate, **M666 OAP**.

J V MANDER
Warminster

DELIGHTED

Many thanks for your valuations of my above registrations. I recently purchased **M300 MMH** from you, and I was delighted by the level of service received.

JOHN M HUTTON
by email

RECOMMENDED

I have now received my new 'log book' from the DVLA. I am enclosing a photo of myself and the new number on my car.

I would like to thank you for your excellent service and will recommend you to my friends and relations.

E F C SKINNER
Plymouth



VERY HELPFUL

Thank your salesman, Martin Wightwick for helping me find my plate. I will use your service again.

SUE LUMB
Essex

SERVICE ONLINE

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your speedy and efficient service. Whenever anyone asks me where I got my plate from I tell them it's Regtransfers (via the RAC website.)

D HUMPHRIES
Southampton

IMPRESSED

Thank you for your email. I have received your colour magazine, it arrived two days after requesting it. I am very impressed with it and finding it interesting reading.

COLIN BETTS
by email



THE FULL COMPLIMENT

Having already purchased the registration **J20 JON** from Regtransfers, I was once again delighted with the excellent service I received when I purchased **J20 XJE** to go on my Jaguar XJ Executive.

I would like to say a big "thank you" to Steve Tyrell, your representative, who spent a good deal of time searching for a number plate to match not only the car but also to compliment the other plate.

JONATHAN HULSE
Crewe



A Cheeky Number...

the story BEHIND the number plate!



"I was once stopped and offered good money for R5 END by an amused Jaguar driver. We agreed a deal but he wrote a couple of days later saying his wife wouldn't have the registration number on their car! Eventually it was sold to a man in Stokesley. I was a little sorry to see the number go and local people still keep asking me what happened to it. I had my share of fun out of it and it was time for someone else to enjoy it. I now have 2 CUF on my car, which Regtransfers is advertising for sale on my behalf."

Some personalised registration numbers convey their message at a glance as the word or name they spell is visually very obvious. Others take a little more deductive talent to appreciate: for example, those consisting of initials or birthdates. There is also a third category that falls between the obvious and the cryptic. Some marks only really get their message across when read out, either aloud or in one's head. Judging by the reactions Regtransfers has seen, some of these phonetic combinations can be amongst the most amusing plates to be seen on UK roads.

It is hardly surprising, when one considers the nature of Britain's most enduring comedy masterpieces, that the phonetic plates that raise the broadest smiles are those with a touch of the Carry On or Benny Hill about them. The cheeky, but harmless, nudge-wink humour that Britain has successfully exported around the world. Take the plate **R5 END** which was sold by Regtransfers on behalf of Nick Huntridge. At first glance, the appeal of the plate might not be evident, but if one

applies the "Platespeak" principle of converting numbers to letters (converting the '5' to an 'S') and then if the plate is read aloud, all becomes clear – especially in the photograph above with its built-in clue.

Nick told us: "It seems that the number has gone from one motor sport enthusiast to another. Last summer two people came back from the '24 Heures Du Mans' race telling me they had seen the number on a Ford Focus RS. That wasn't the first time it had been there – I'd also taken it on my Fiesta Si.

Nick hoped to acquire R5 OLE and R50 LES (apply the same process described above if the meanings aren't immediately clear), but the issuing authority does sometimes hold back combinations that might be deemed offensive and he was told he couldn't have those numbers.

The appeal is perhaps a little immature, as Nick is the first to admit. "I used to write things like that on the back of dirty lorries as a kid. It amused me in the same way that those old joke book titles like *Floating Down the River* by R Suppards!"





'M3' Dream Come True

Gavin Smith of Fleetwood Computers in Guildford, Surrey, had been looking at personalised plates for a long while and couldn't decide whether to buy or not.

He really wanted one with as few numbers and letters as possible. He openly admits: "the only reason I wanted a small plate was because of the 'flash git' look - but those come with a price which I couldn't afford.

"I searched for registrations that resembled my name, but again couldn't find anything," said Gavin. "This was partly because I couldn't use my surname, Smith, and S is newer than the year of my car."

Months went by and Gavin decided that maybe he should look for something for his company, so he searched for FWC, the acronym used by Fleetwood Computers when watermarking pictures. He eventually found **M8 FWC**.

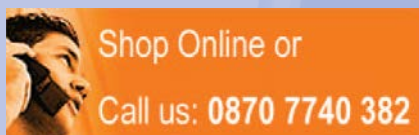
Gavin's dream is to own the E46 version of an M3 BMW convertible but he said to himself: "What's the likelihood of getting **M3 FWC**? Not a chance." But surprisingly it was available, so he just had to have it.

"It was one step closer to owning the M3 and when I do get the M3 it will look great, especially with my company's initials."

Within three weeks of ordering the registration he assigned it to his car. He got the new plates made which are now fitted and says, "They look great on the BMW. It's just a shame they are not on an M3... yet."

Gavin very graciously thanked Regtransfers for the "excellent service" he received when purchasing his cherished registration.

www.fleetwoodcomputers.co.uk



Fleetwood Computers



Good Lord!

LORD Nicholas Tuscan Speakman first became interested in personalised number plates at a very early age: long before he owned a car - even before he could drive. He says, "I feel that personalisation is so very important, after all most people when they buy a car they will modify it in one way or another to suit their tastes, so why not change the registration too."

"After all, once you have bought a registration you can transfer it from car to car, and furthermore an interesting number plate can totally change the whole look of the car."

Having his own collection of number plates he has recently decided to put two up for sale, **X10 RDS** and the first number plate he ever acquired, **NTS 55**, which he bought from Registration Transfers in 1987.

The latter number is currently on Lord Speakman's Ferrari, however the registration has also been on eleven of his previous vehicles. He says that whenever he changed vehicles and placed his number plate on them they were somehow transformed.

Life Coach

Now a life coach by profession, his latest registration number purchase was **L1 FEK**, which is currently being transferred onto his Ferrari.

These, however, do not form Lord Speakman's full collection of cherished numbers. When **10 RD** and **1 LRD** came up for sale he felt he had to buy them; after all, he already owned impressive vehicles upon which to display them.

To make space for these additions, he transferred another fine plate, **N1 KTS**, to his Harley-Davidson V-Rod motorcycle (*see opposite*).



(continued . . .)



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Following a successful career as a financial advisor which spanned many years, Lord Speakman entered the world of health and fitness. He purchased and converted a derelict church, wherein he set up the Heavenly Bodies Fitness Club with his stunning wife Eva (who drives a Mercedes 500 SB sporting the registration **350 EVA**).

Potential

Over the years Lord Speakman realised that he seemed to have a talent for bringing out the best in the people around him, and the ability to help people realise their potential.

Having already accomplished this to a degree in the fields of finance and health and fitness, he wanted to assist people further, and consequently began studying psychology and life coaching. His new aim is to help people live their lives with passion and enthusiasm.

"We all seek happiness," he says. "And most people have the belief that the key to happiness is having money, unfortunately this is not always true."

Over the years he says he has had the privilege of meeting many wealthy and successful people who were so desperately unhappy, this he says had always puzzled him.

"What was the secret that could create passionate, contented and grateful lives in many people who had nothing and yet could delude others who appear to have all the material items anyone could wish for?"

It wasn't until he purchased Stubley Hall in July 2000 and was visited by some rather friendly spirits that the secrets of fulfillment and happiness became clear to him.

His story is rather compelling. Stubley Hall where he now resides was a property to which he always felt mysteriously drawn.



Without doubt an outstanding house dating back to 1277, in the early eighties the Hall was converted to a high-class restaurant hotel. At the height of its popularity it was bought out by the Beefeater chain who went on to own it for several years.

Having dined in the Hall on several occasions Lord Speakman became accustomed to a phenomenon he had repeatedly experienced inside: a strange and inexplicable, but not unpleasant, sensation of internal chill.

One day whilst driving past Stubley Hall he saw a 'for sale' sign being put up and immediately telephoned the agent.

"I remember it vividly," he says. "It was a Thursday morning and I rang the agent immediately from my car.

I received details the day after and arranged a viewing on the Sunday."

"Mind-blowing"

During the viewing, Lord Speakman had what he describes as a "mind-blowing experience" in an area where he had dined several times before. He began to feel "cold on the inside".

"The feeling got colder and colder," he says, going on to say that he seemed to hear a voice bidding him to come home. Although he could not explain what he had felt, he knew that he had to buy the Hall. On the Monday he agreed to buy, and exchanged contracts six days later.

During his occupation of the Hall, Lord Speakman has discovered that the legends about the property

being haunted appear to be true. Several spirits have been documented over the years, the most famous being known as Fatima.

However, most unexpected of all was a spirit named Zelda who claims that she was betrothed to him in a previous life!

Even a sceptic might concede that Lord Speakman does have a certain air of mystery about him. He also seems to have mastered the art of making people feel good about themselves; an ability that has helped him become well-established as a life coach within celebrity circles.

If there are any celebrities or sports personalities out there who need a lift, they should certainly contact this remarkable man.

LordSpeakman@personalmoney.co.uk

Telephone 07973 711222



Lord Speakman's stunning wife Eva with her Mercedes 500 SB sporting the registration **350 EVA**.

Business & Pleasure

are just a number plate away!

When it comes to waste **George Anthony Devlin** is the man to call. He has been involved in the industry for 25 years, owning his first tipper lorry when he was only 23 years old. There isn't much he doesn't know. Most of this time he has worked on his own but for a few years he was general manager at Gowing and Pursey, the largest waste skip company in London.

He dealt with all aspects of the business and the experience he gained was invaluable, eventually proving to be a very useful asset.

Whilst working in London, George decided to become a taxi driver and got his Green Badge in 1998. He even passed 'The Knowledge' by driving around London in his roll-on, roll-off waste lorry, which is a little different from the usual clipboard on a bicycle.

It was at this time that George bought his first cherished number plate **R1 GAD** which he initially put on his taxi and still owns to this day.

When George and his wife, Shirley Ann, moved out to Dunstable in Bedfordshire, he was determined to set up a new waste business of his own. Armed with a lifetime's knowledge of waste disposal and the difficulties and safety issues encountered in the narrow streets of London, George came up with the idea of **MINIBINS The Access Friendly Skip**.

(continued . . .



GAD

www.minibins.co.uk



0845 456 1996



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... continued)



www.minibins.co.uk
E-mail : info@minibins.co.uk

tel: 0845 456 1996



His business knowledge gained at Gowing and Pursey helped get MINIBINS up and running efficiently from day one.

He is in fact, the first person to put roll-on/roll-off bins onto the back of a Transit-sized van. These 5 cubic-yard skips are based on the large 32-tonne commercial versions but these skips can be placed conveniently anywhere you wish. They can even drop them into your garage if needs be.

They are low-level, so no heavy lifting. On delivery there are no flaying chains to duck out of the way of and you won't get several broken pavements as you would from the stabilising feet of a traditional skip lorry.

Being square they are more user-friendly and avoid many of the health and safety issues surrounding the use of large skips. That said, they still have the capacity for most occasions.

Well before he actually started Minibins in January 2004, George checked out the Regtransfers.co.uk website and purchased his first four number plates knowing they would be ideal for the company once it was up and running.

They all had his initials (**GAD**) on and were prefixed by **R10**, **R20**, **R30** and **R40**. The plan was to put them on each of his first four vans. The reason he chose the "R" prefixes was to follow on from the **R1 GAD** that he had purchased years before, thus maintaining continuity.

In fact George also has **R50 GAD** currently waiting to go onto another van. **R1 GAD** will eventually go on his first brand-new van, which won't be too long now and his dream of a fleet of easily identifiable vans is now well under way.

One reason why George wanted easily recognisable registrations





was to make administration easier. For example, when paying congestion charges, trying to remember registrations such as **BW51 AMK** when filling out forms is made so much easier by these distinguished registrations.

George's interest in personal number plates also spills over into his private life. He has a Grand

Cherokee with the registration **31 GD** on and he also owns **29 GD**.

His wife Shirley Ann, who works equally hard looking after the administration side of the business, is also into personalised number plates, proudly displaying **R1 SAD** on her own car.

George says of his purchases, "Not only do these number plates help to

create a corporate image, but they also look good."

In closing George added "After all, I'm a man with champagne ideas on light ale money".



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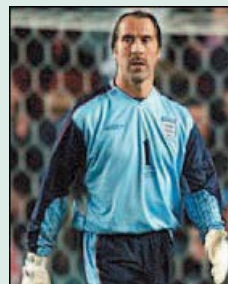
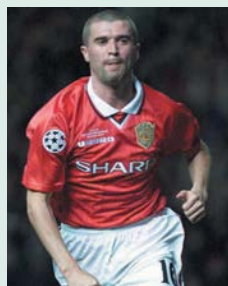
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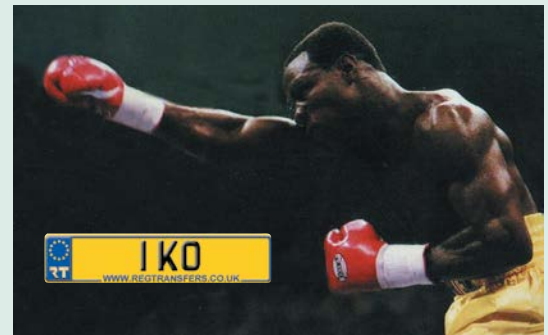
Kriss Akabusi
Athletics Gold Medal Winner



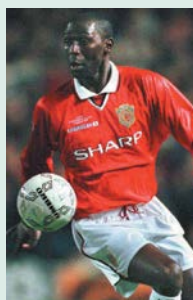
Iwan Tomas
400m Gold Medallist Runner



Dean Headley
Ex-Kent and England fast bowler



Chris Eubank
World Middleweight Champion



Just a few of our many satisfied celebrity customers: ROBBIE WILLIAMS, CHRIS EUBANK, IWAN THOMAS, KATHARINE MERRY, JAMIE BAULCH, DJ PIED PIPER, WILLIE CARSON, EMILE HESKEY, DAVID SEAMAN, ANDY COLE, ROY KEANE, VINNIE JONES, SID OWEN, FRANK WARREN, NIGEL BENN, DEAN HEADLEY, BOBBY ROBSON, GRAHAM GOOCH, GARY FLITCROFT, CHRIS WADDLE, FRANK BRUNO, BARRY VENISON, DAVID PLEAT, STEVE STAUNTON.



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