

The World of **Personal Number Plates** Issue 43

Regtransfers

1982 **35** YEARS 2017





Cars and motorsport have been very much a part of Dan Bamforth's life. His father, Stuart, was a world champion stock car driver and promoter, who also owned the Belle Vue Aces speedway team.

"Both my parents have had some great cars for as long as I can remember," says Dan, "but one thing that stuck in my mind, and likely planted the seed, was the number plates that adorned them."

Dan, who runs Town Door, a commercial property rental business in West Yorkshire, says "We still own many 'BAM' plates, most of which are on our fleet vehicles at work. My mum, Lucy, has both 10 LU and 11 LU and my brother Ben has 8 ENB."

Other registrations Dan currently has on retention include D1 BAM and DA11 BAM.

"But I have always had a strong desire to acquire my ultimate registration, 1 BAM," Dan recalls. "I watched the market regularly and had seen it listed previously. However, some weeks ago when it reappeared, things just felt right. After a successful couple of years operating our business with a real surge in growth, I knew I had to snap it up."

The family has purchased the majority of their plates via Regtransfers. "We have genuinely never experienced anything less than seamless, fast, efficient friendly and 5-star service," Dan comments. "We would highly recommend Regtransfers to anyone looking to secure an investment. Not only are number plates an investment, they are a lot of fun; they really make your car stand out from the crowd - the ultimate accessory."

www.towndoor.co.uk

“We have genuinely never experienced anything less than seamless, fast, efficient, friendly and 5-star service.”





Towndoor







Goals!

Anders Mankert is a Swedish born golf professional at Cosby Golf Club in Leicestershire. "I am one of only sixty PGA Advanced Fellow Pros in the world and I coach golfers from all over the country," he says. "I have built a state of the art teaching studio and fitting centre, as seen in the picture."

Anders has coached many footballers at golf and he bought his fantastic registration, 60 ALS, three years ago from a premiership player. "It has been owned by several stars, including England players, over the years," he says. Anders sees the registration plate as a safe investment as well as an eye-catching plate.

The red La Ferrari in the picture insert belongs to the registration's previous owner, who wishes to remain nameless. "He was a very big name in football in the 90s and 00s," confirmed Anders, "and is still well-known today."

www.andersmankert.co.uk

La Ferrari is a limited production hybrid sports car. In December 2016, a La Ferrari was auctioned for £5,743,500 making it the most valuable 21st-century automobile ever sold at auction. Source: Wikipedia





Abigail Clough, 41, runs the Darpo Hair Spa in Preston, Lancashire. She has been a hairdresser for 23 years. "My mum was also a hairdresser," she says, "so I have been brought up in the job."

Abigail has been married for 19 years to Sam, originally from nearby Burnley - which is where they lived for 10 years and where she set up her first shop, Flik, in 2000.

The couple have twin daughters, Darcy and Poppy, who were just 18 months old when Darpo - the children's names combined - was established in 2006.

"I bought the plate when we opened," says Abby, "but I also had A18 BYS (Abby's) so my mum kept D4 RPO for 10 years on her car."



Earlier this year, Regtransfers sold A18 BYS on Abby's behalf, and she put D4 RPO on her new Nissan Qashqai. "I've had so many clients comment," she says. "I was at the wholesalers the other day and even one of the staff commented on it. It's a great marketing tool as it gets recognised."

“It's a great marketing tool as it gets recognised.”

www.facebook.com/darpo.hairspa





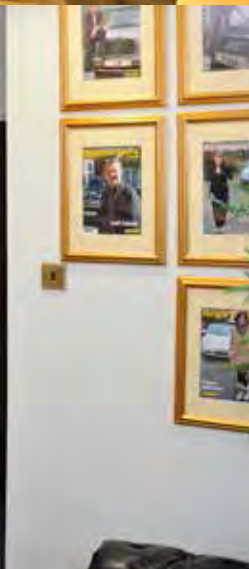
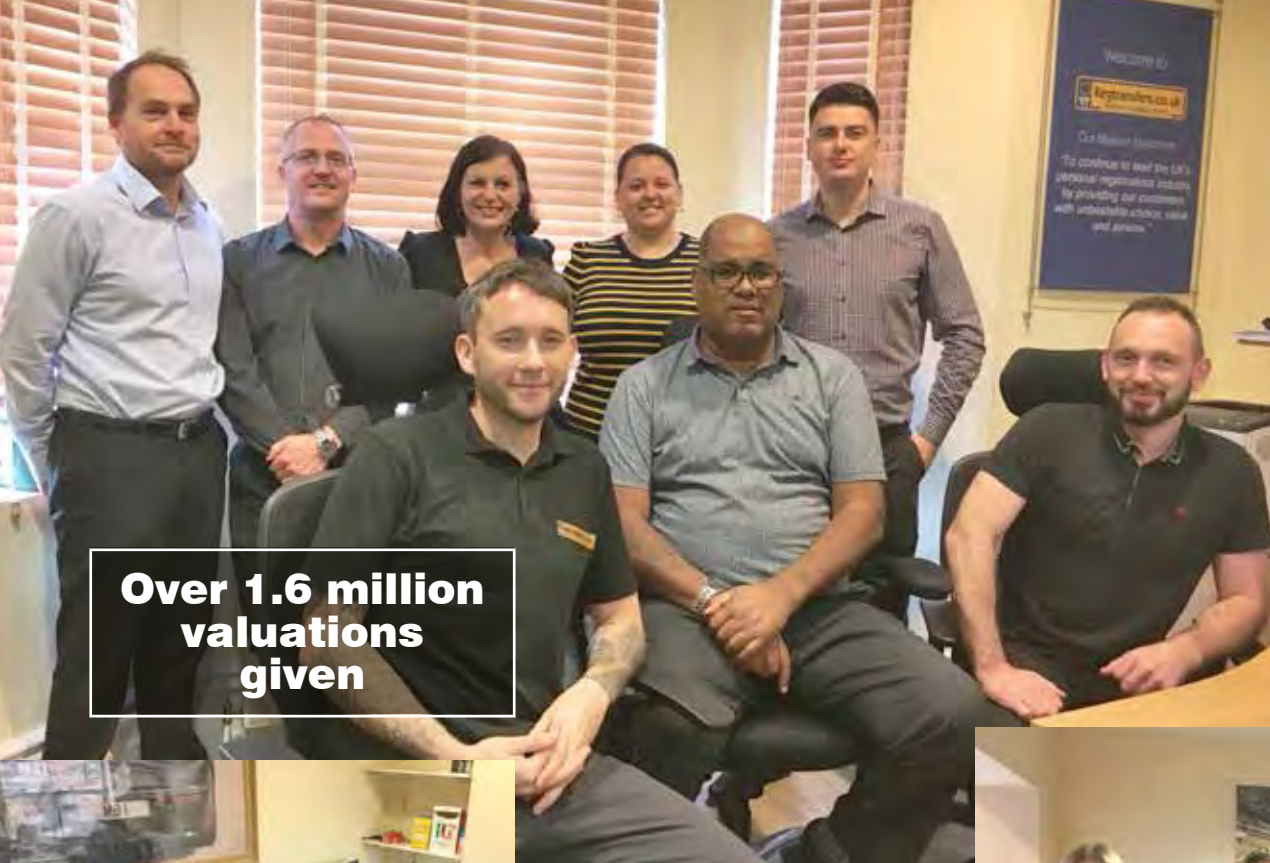
It seems like only yesterday that we at Regtransfers were celebrating our 30th anniversary but already we find ourselves marking our 35th year.

From those first days in 1982 when Tony Brown was trudging the streets of London alone, slipping cards under car windscreen wipers in a bid to generate leads, Regtransfers has grown to become the UK's largest independent number plates specialist, employing 118 people and occupying three buildings full of busy offices.

In addition to the core business of buying and selling cherished number plates, Regtransfers publishes the industry's only regular, professional magazine, *The World of Personal Number Plates* (circulation over 300,000 per issue), and a number of books. Regtransfers is the first port of call for journalists and researchers seeking information, advice and commentary on all aspects of car registrations news, and for film and TV production companies sourcing registrations to appear on screen.

What follows is a visual tour through some of our achievements and highlights. Thank you for accompanying us on our journey through the years!





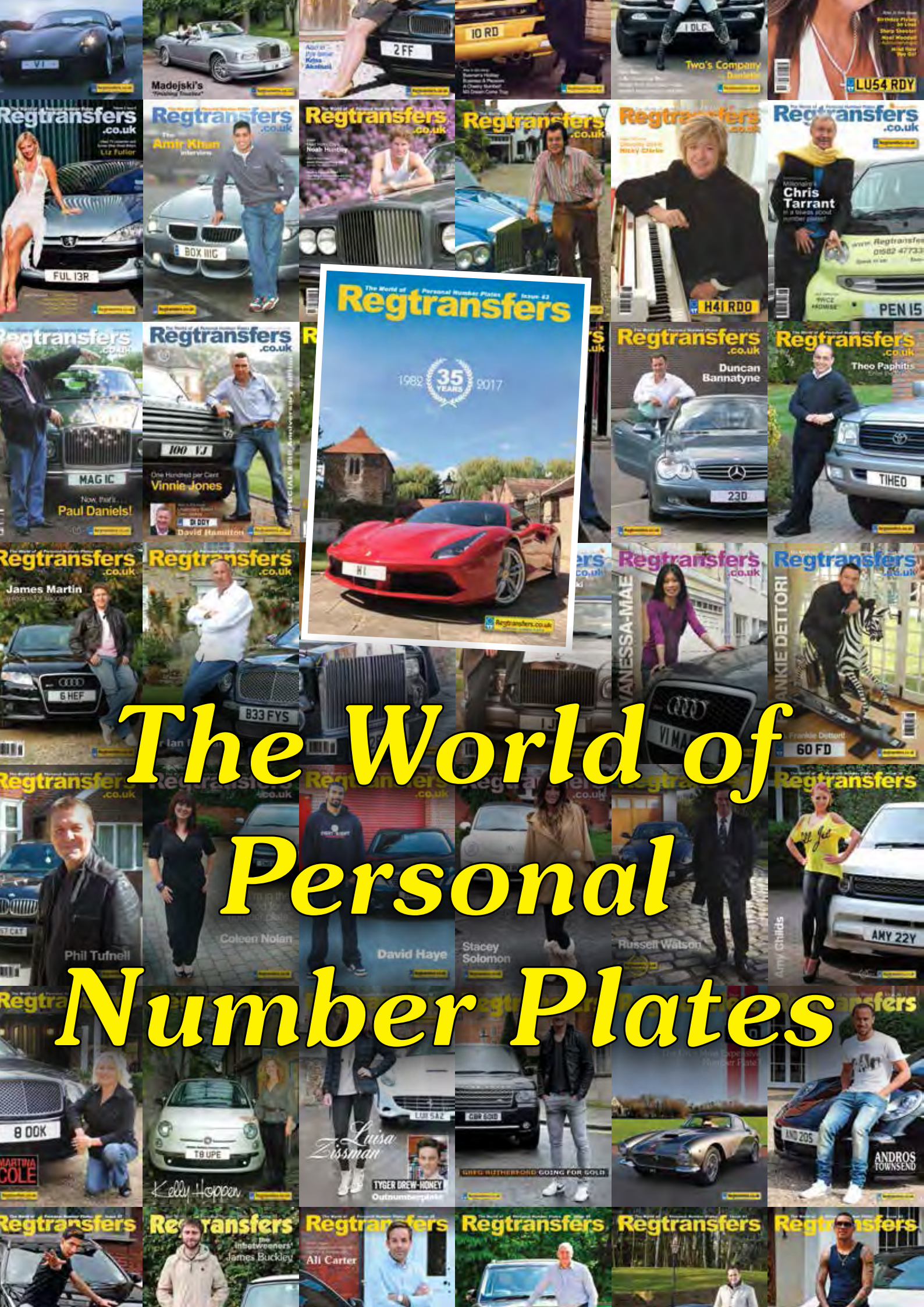
Behind the scenes

RTimeline

**Over 51 million
registrations
available**

**Half a million+
registrations
sold**

- 1982** Tony Brown establishes Registration Transfers operating from home with one telephone and a card index filing system
- 1984** The company purchases its first computer
- 1985** The business expands and begins trading from offices in George Street, Dunstable
- 1989** The DVLA start selling number plates in direct competition with the private sector
- 1994** The company moves to current premises in High Street South, Dunstable
- 1996** Registration Transfers has 30 employees
- 1997** The launch of our website www.regtransfers.co.uk
- 1998** The shortened website name 'Regtransfers.co.uk' is adopted for newspaper and magazine advertisements
- 2000** The company is incorporated as Registration Transfers Limited and now employs 50 people
- 2002** Our first book, *Fanatical About Number Plates*, is published and the evening sales team is established, greatly extending the company's trading hours
- 2003** The first issue of this magazine, *The World of Personal Number Plates*, is published
- 2004** The online purchase facility is introduced. Regtransfers has 80 staff
- 2008** A new 'state of the art' telephone system installed
- 2011** The first magazine annual is published
- 2013** Magazine print run increases to 200,000 copies per issue
- 2015** Staff total reaches 100 employees
- 2016** A new version of our website is launched
- 2017** Regtransfers celebrates 35 years in business



The World of Personal Number Plates



These handmade cufflinks are made from stainless steel with durable resin covered inserts and are finished to the highest standard to produce a quality personal gift.

They can be personalised using up to 10 characters (including spaces) to create that dream registration, name, set of initials or special date.

They are beautifully presented in a stylish midnight blue coloured gift box.

Approximate dimensions: 22mm x 12mm.

£39.99

Personal gifts from Regtransfers

We all know that a personal number plate makes a great gift, but some situations call for a slightly different kind of present.

Regtransfers offers a range of number plates themed gifts for the cherished registrations or car enthusiast.

Our selection of private number plates books has been written by some of the UK's leading autonumerology specialists, including Regtransfers' own team of expert writers, and some volumes are actually published by us. Whether your area of interest is celebrity numbers, the history of UK car registrations or information regarding when and where specific numbers were issued, we have just what you need.

Our authentic, highly detailed, die-cast car models may be ordered with their own model number plates. Order a faithful, miniature reproduction car complete with

your personal registration. Or, for those who do not yet have their dream car or number, why not buy a smaller, more affordable version of that coveted Lamborghini and personal plate?

These models are authorised by the manufacturers of the real production vehicles depicted in the range. Depending upon the model, these miniatures boast many outstanding features including opening doors, boots and bonnets; authentic engine detail, steerable wheels and more.

Our quality number plate cufflinks are the ideal gift for any occasion and make wonderful wedding, anniversary and birthday presents. Just like the real thing, these cufflinks come in a pair with one white (front) and one yellow (rear) number plate, both with the same registration.

Books

All prices include **FREE DELIVERY**

Fanatical About Number Plates



by Ruby Speechley

Written by Regtransfers.co.uk's own expert, *Fanatical About Number Plates* combines history and facts with personal stories and photographs.

298 pages Hardback

£18.99

World of Personal Number Plates Annual



This substantial volume gathers together the best of our recent magazine articles and a wealth of interesting and useful information, alongside a host of brand new stories and features.

198 pages Hardback

£9.99

Car Numbers Then and Now



by Noel Woodall and Brian Heaton

Hundreds of pages of photographs and a staggeringly comprehensive directory of UK car number plates and their owners.

896 pages Hardback

£44.99

Models

All prices include **FREE DELIVERY**



Audi R8

£49.99



Lamborghini Gallardo Spyder

£49.99



Bentley Continental Convertible ISR

£49.99



Range Rover Sport

£49.99



Aston Martin DB5

£49.99



Mercedes Benz SL65 AMG

£49.99

The Perfect Gift

Order online at www.regtransfers.co.uk/gifts



Crown Jewels



Alison Stanley is the director of Stanley's Jewellers in Birmingham. "We started in the 1970s," she explains, "and have grown to having two retail shops and a manufacturing business."

Alison also has a self-confessed love of cars. "I bought my first plate AS 3101 in 1983," she recalls. "I had no intention of buying one but, at the time, my brother Arthur (a fellow company director) wanted to buy AS 3040 but was having trouble getting the seller to release it. He was offered AS 3101, but he didn't want it. The seller then asked me if I was interested in it. I told him that I couldn't afford it, as I had not long bought a house, but because my brother was buying a plate, he said that he would do mine at a better price. My brother's plate was £750. He offered mine for £450 which, of course, was an offer I couldn't refuse." Arthur, who is sadly no longer with us, did eventually get his AS 3040 plate. It now belongs to his son.

Alison's husband, Kevin, has his own W12 KVN plate and, when he spotted AS 3106 on the Regtransfers website, he insisted Alison buy it for the Mercedes SLK she had recently treated herself to. "He said it would be great to have it to go alongside AS 3101," she recalls. "And I'm really glad I went ahead with it."

The couple enjoy driving their cars around the beautiful Shropshire countryside. Alison is a "keen keep fit person" who swims, power walks and cycles five days a week. She is also a classical guitarist, having all her Trinity Grade passes to Grade Eight.

www.stanleysjewellers.co.uk

STANLEY'S
jewellers

Even More Recognisable



Mandy Bowler's initials are, of course, 'MB' and she loves her Porsche 911. That alone would be enough to make 911 MB her perfect number plate, but when one learns that her birthday is 9th November... Well, how can you beat that?

The registration has been on the last two cars she has owned. "They make the cars even more recognisable," she says. Her previous plate, MPH 96, represented her maiden name initials.

Mandy's husband, Keith, is clearly keen to keep up with his wife and has the registration 174 KB on his BMW X6 M50. "I have owned this since the 1980s," he says. "We tried to purchase 174 MB to match mine, but we missed out on it in the Regtransfers auction as it went just above our maximum bid."

The couple from Sunderland have owned several other plates over the years, including KWC 18, which Keith removed from an old Rolls-Royce a friend of his had bought. Regtransfers subsequently sold that number on his behalf. Keith's father owned 321 HPB for many years.



For his 40th birthday, Paul Farmery from Paignton in Devon bought himself an MG TF and found a great number for it on the Regtransfers website. "Within an hour, Sue from your sales team rang and said my offer had been accepted," says Paul, "which prompted me to ask about one I had also seen on your website for my wife. Within a few hours of making first contact I was the proud owner of two registrations."

Paul's wife, Angela Kay, received her 294 AKF plate on her birthday and is very pleased with it. "What do you buy a lady that has everything," asks Paul. "Yes I know it's on an older car but it's there, ready, for when we get a newer car."

As his job keeps him on the road for many hours, Paul always keeps an eye out for private registrations to help him pass the time, "now that we are part of that elite club."

“The price was right and service was excellent.”



Nigel Chambers, from Gloucestershire, trades under the name of The Door Doctor (South West) Ltd and recently purchased

DO04 DOC [Door Doc] from Regtransfers as a way of celebrating his business.

"Jemma Fowler was the sales person," he recalls, "and she dealt with my enquiry

very efficiently returning my call within minutes explaining the process through to completion."

Nigel owns two other cherished plates: "T80 NJC was on a works van," he says, "The 'NJC' is for Nigel John Chambers and 'T' just works as my star sign [Taurus] initial. 80 is a lucky number." L400 NJC is currently on his wife, Lesley's, car - a 2016 BMW X5 xDrive and her pride and joy.

“Your sales person, Jemma, dealt with my enquiry very efficiently.”



"The plate was a present before we got married," says Nigel. "to incorporate both of our names 'Lesley for (4) Nigel John Chambers'. It has been on several BMWs including 3 series coupe 320d M, 635d M, and two X5s. Once my wife saw it advertised it seemed the ideal number, unique accessory, and some fun expressing who we are."

As its name implies, the company's core business is the installation of both internal and external doors.

www.doordoctorsouthwest.com

DOOR DOCTOR
South West Ltd





Indydependent

"It was on the back of Car magazine," says Michael Roberts. "The first Maserati Indy I ever saw: a vision of loveliness."

That glimpse marked the beginning of Michael's quest to acquire his very own Indy. At first the search proved fruitless and Michael just couldn't find a suitable Indy for sale. Meanwhile, he purchased a Maserati Merak, which provided his introduction to the Maserati owners' community, and he soon made the connections that would pay off.

Michael met a dealer who had an Indy that "might be for sale".

"I mentioned a price, but he said that price plus 50% was more to his way of thinking," Michael recalls. "It was almost two years later that I received a message from him asking if I still had an interest in the Indy. Markets being what they are, we were now talking much closer to the price I had mentioned. When I bought it, it had the number plate GUS 345 on it, but the vendor indicated that he might want the registration back when he acquired another suitable vehicle. I was on borrowed time with that plate."

Michael's first Maserati International event didn't quite go as expected. "Of course, she broke down at the race circuit somewhere in rural northern France. A problem with the clutch master cylinder resulted in a journey home on more public transport. But there is a camaraderie within the community and, within a week, magicians from McGrath Maserati had popped over and worked their craft, and so the car got back to the UK."

Soon afterwards, the seller of the Indy requested that Michael transfer his cherished plate as had been discussed when the Indy purchase had taken place.

"What was I to do? Scouring the columns of the registration plate vendors and resellers it became apparent that no one was offering what I wanted."

It was another two years before Michael found a suitable registration in an auction catalogue. He attended the auction of 11 NDY and noticed a group of determined bidders whom he deduced to be professional dealers.

"When it came to Lot 1089, I determined not to bid early but then, as no one offered anything, it was about to be withdrawn, so my hand was forced. I was bid up to over twice my budget, but in the end my money talked."







Franco Galasso, a signwriter, is deaf and cannot use the telephone but he has no problem communicating with his customers. Born in Bedford, but now living in Hitchin, Hertfordshire, Franco has been in business for 32 years. "We are always busy and work very hard with our very small team," he says. "We have no contract work or very big clients, mainly one-off customers who come back again and again."

Ten years ago, Franco intended to buy F124 NCO from Regtransfers. Unfortunately, he was just too late and it had been sold. He had to wait a decade to find it again and so when he did, he immediately bought it. "It's worth every penny and hilarious," he says. "Most of my customers and friends notice my number plate." Franco also bought G5 LTD (for his business, Galasso Signs Ltd) from Regtransfers. That number is now displayed on his Ford Transit LWB van.

"I went to an auction in York many years ago for S1 GNS," Franco recalls. "I thought it was worth about £15k but gave up at £24k. It is now on the market for £67k!"

Franco expressed his thanks to Regtransfers sales adviser Kirsty McGeoghegan, describing the service she provided as, "very good and helpful."

www.galassosigns.co.uk

“I would like to thank your sales adviser Kirsty who was very good and helpful.”



Thanks to an anonymous donor, the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance (HIOWAA) Critical Care Team vehicle recently became the first of its type to sport its own personalised registration. The number plate, HA10 WAA, was donated to mark the charity's 10th anniversary this year.

"We are very grateful for this very special registration plate which will serve as a great talking point and will help to raise awareness for our life-saving service," said CEO Alex Lochrane.

The specially converted Volvo XC90 became operational in February this year as an extension of the service that

HIOWAA provides to the sick and injured of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. It is crewed by a team of HIOWAA doctors and paramedics and has parallel capability to the Air Ambulance. The vehicle will operate seven days a week, providing the same enhanced care as that delivered by the helicopter, but it will be able to get to the more difficult to reach urban areas. Additionally, it provides a vital training platform for doctors and paramedics.

HIOWAA delivers an advanced critical care team to people in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight when they need it most. Available both day and night, 365 days a year, the air ambulance can be anywhere

within Hampshire in 15 minutes and anywhere within the Isle of Wight within 20 minutes and can land in an area the size of a tennis court and on almost any terrain. The team is called out many times a day to attend to road traffic collisions, sporting accidents, collapses and many other incidents.

www.hiowaa.org



Richard Manser started 5 Star Windows & Conservatories in 2002 and it has since grown to be one of the largest windows and

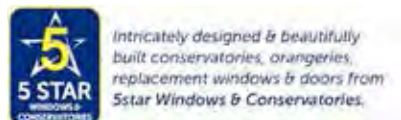
conservatory businesses throughout the Midlands. With showrooms in Kidderminster and Worcester, the

company has around 70 people associated with it.

"We design and build the finest conservatories and orangeries," says Richard. "We also install a unique range of windows and doors."

Richard likes to work hard, but he also likes to play hard. His hobbies include skiing, jet skiing (he was British and European champion in 1990), racing Enduro bikes (KTM 350 4-stroke), playing golf and enjoying quality time with his family.

"I regularly set goals and, in 2005, I added a picture of the number plate I later bought in my goals folder. Unfortunately, at that time my car was too old to display it and it was more than I wanted to pay. However, I saw a Regtransfers advertisement offering discounts for a limited time. I didn't really expect to see a difference, so I was amazed to see it was half the price I'd first seen. So, I bought it and, because it was a business purchase, I got the VAT back."



Pristine Plates

VA13 TNA was a surprise 2013 birthday and Christmas present from Marino Giorgetti for his partner Valentina, from Ayrshire. This plate is personal and for life. I have told Valentina that she is never selling it!"

Valentina has recently qualified as a physiotherapist with the NHS. She also does physio for the local football team, Largs Thistle, and used to play women's football for both Celtic and Queen's Park, in Glasgow.

Marino is a navigational officer in the merchant navy and works for a ferry company on the West Coast of Scotland. Marino's own registration is G10 SEA. "This was an 18th birthday present many years ago," he says. "My nickname is Gio and I work at sea." There are a number of other

personal plates in the family: Marino's sister Ramona, has RA11 ONA; Marino's parents used to own an ice cream shop called The Ritz Cafe and still have the plate R17 CAF.

"Both of us are saving for the wedding," says Marino, "so after that, we will be looking at new cars. I would like a Mercedes CLA AMG; Valentina likes the Audi A3. Our cars are always detailed every six months by my friend Graeme McDade who owns Pristine Machine in Port Glasgow, Scotland. The cars are immaculate and service is 10/10." The high standard of workmanship is reflected in the company's own 'MAX' plate.

Marino's charming photograph of Valentina with her plate was taken on the Isle of Cumbrae where she is originally from.

"We were going for dinner at my parents," says Marino, "when Valentina decided the backdrop would be a perfect setting for the picture."





Reunited

June Jones's car has been reunited with its original registration after 31 years.

Her grandfather bought the Morris Minor new in 1958. The car, registered that year by the Bath County Borough Council licensing authority, bore the registration JFB 71. In 1973, when he gave up driving, he handed the car over to June.

"In 1986," June recalls, "we decided to sell the number plate to help fund our daughter Karen's musical career." At that time, Karen played tenor horn with Bendix Brass Band, along with her grandfather

who taught her to play. Then, as time passed, Karen switched to French horn. She attended the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester and when she graduated, she freelanced with the Halle Orchestra and the BBC Philharmonic. She is now Head of Music at a grammar school in Manchester but still plays with The Royal Artillery Territorial Army Band.

The car was driven around bearing its replacement registration until it was taken off the road in 1994 to be garaged for the next 23 years. June and her family had always rather missed the



CARS, LIGHT VANS AND TRUCKS



“The sale went through very efficiently with the help of knowledgeable and friendly staff.”



original registration that they'd had to sell, so they were delighted to see that very number come up for sale with Regtransfers a few years later.

“We put in an offer to buy it back,” says June. “Unfortunately the seller decided to take it off the market, and we were absolutely gutted.”

Following that disappointment, the family looked every week in the newspapers and online just in case JFB 71 should come back on the market. “Imagine our delight when, in November 2015,

we saw it advertised again with Regtransfers! We immediately put in an offer which was accepted. So, after 31 years, the number plate has now been returned to the original car.”

Having reclaimed the original registration, time and effort were invested in returning the Morris to fully roadworthy condition. “The car is now restored,” says June, “and we have taken it to several rallies.”

In addition to this new interest, June and her husband, Keith, who are both now retired, spend their time with their

two dogs, caravanning, ballroom and sequence dancing, socialising and helping out with the grandchildren.

“Our experience in purchasing the plate from you was very positive,” June concludes. “The sale went through very efficiently with the help of knowledgeable and friendly staff. We have since purchased K1 JEJ [which incorporates the initials K for Keith, JE for June Elizabeth and J for Jones] from you to put on our Mini Cooper.”

Most Fitting

Simon Matthews, from Maidstone in Kent, has owned SMX 1 since 2005 and it has been on many cars since then. "I could not afford the plate S1 MON," he says, "so I thought about my initials and realised that SM 1 was also well out of budget." Having no middle name made it harder for

Simon to find something suitable which is why he came up with the clever neutral 'X' character.

"I believe that SMX 1 came into circulation in 1951," says Simon, "and this would be most fitting as this plate is dedicated to

my father who was born in that year 1951 and I bought this as an investment with the money that he left me."

Simon also owns N1 SMX and L1 CMX.



Under the Hammer



July 2017

The third DVLA private number plates auction of 2017 was held at Mercedes-Benz World in Brooklands on the 19th, 20th and 21st of July. This is a great venue for the auction with Brooklands Hotel conveniently located nearby and Mercedes-Benz World on the site of the Brooklands track which opened in 1907. This was the location of the first purpose-built banked motor race circuit in the world. The last race there took place in 1939 but there is now a Brooklands museum.

This aviation and motoring museum offered an additional, fascinating attraction for auction attendees to visit in addition to the exhibition of classic cars in the nearby Mercedes showroom.

Visitors also had the chance to enjoy a 'hot lap' in a Mercedes AMG. An exhilarating experience where the professional driver subjects passengers to the thrill of extreme

acceleration and braking and also sliding on a wet skid circle.

There were 1250 car registrations on offer over the three days with the usual mix of prefix, suffix, dateless and current style registrations on offer.

The Top 10 highest priced registrations of the auction were:

| | |
|----------|---------|
| 45 O | £66,176 |
| SA17 DHU | £28,851 |
| MCL 720S | £26,259 |
| WH15 TON | £26,259 |
| 101 B | £26,000 |
| 5 OOD | £24,963 |
| 451 M | £23,796 |
| 488 A | £23,667 |
| 110 RD | £23,667 |
| LO17 DON | £22,371 |



This was certainly a good auction with most registrations sold and fetching high prices. As always, there are surprises on the day, including the registration TWO 80B. This had a reserve of £300 but the bidding was intense on the day and the total price of this registration was £13,040 – a little more than two bob!



September 2017

The fourth DVLA private number plates auction of 2017 was held at The Cambridge Belfry Hotel on 20th, 21st and 22nd of September. The four-star hotel on the outskirts of the city caters for both leisure guests and business professionals alike and boasts a stunning lakeside location and a well-equipped health club spa, pool and sauna.

There were 1250 car registrations on offer over the three days with the usual mix of prefix, suffix, dateless and current style registrations on offer.

The Top 10 highest priced registrations of the auction were:

| | |
|----------|---------|
| 96 O | £68,120 |
| 812 S | £59,048 |
| 1 HSV | £53,864 |
| CO17 RAD | £49,328 |
| 123 AP | £28,722 |
| SA17 GHA | £28,592 |
| 1 SMO | £26,259 |
| 575 L | £24,704 |
| 180 B | £22,112 |
| MRZ 1 | £22,112 |



Prices shown include fees and taxes

The Regtransfers Auction

Not to be outdone, we have successfully hosted our own online auction for many years.

It works just like a conventional auction, allowing you to bid on registrations or sell your own with the assurance of having us oversee the whole transaction.

It's a great alternative for buyers and sellers alike. So, why not take a look?

www.regtransfers.co.uk/auction





The Registration Numbers Club is the only traditional UK based club catering for enthusiasts of personalised vehicle registration numbers.

Joining us costs very little and the benefits could be substantial. We were originally founded in 1977 and currently produce a quarterly newsletter, RNC News, which is the original independent club publication and is available free to subscribing members.

Many of you will be aware that our long serving Honorary Secretary, Steve Waldenberg, has recently stood down from the position. For the immediate future Steve will continue to produce the club magazine, RNC News. Dominic Chandler, from Warwickshire will take on the position of Membership Secretary effective 1 October 2017.

For further information, please contact:

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Is your plate readable?

Well, if not, you could risk a £1000 fine. It's a common issue and British drivers are being urged to check their number plates to see if they are obscured. Cars regularly get dirty, especially with the poor state of our roads, but if this builds-up and makes your number plates unreadable you could be penalised.

One of the legal requirements for vehicle registration marks is that they should be easily readable and there is a specific offence under the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act, 1994, for obscuring or allowing a registration mark to be not easily distinguishable.

In addition to a maximum £1000 fine, having an illegible number plate can be enough to make a vehicle fail its MOT test and, if used in a driving test could cause you to fail. Similar rules apply to motorbikes, motor tricycles and trailers.

RNC 40th Anniversary Rally 2017

A milestone in our club's history and we celebrated in style over the weekend of 15/16 July at Temple Newsam House, Leeds on the Sunday and with a dinner at the Mercure Leeds Parkway hotel on the previous evening.

A record 40 members attended the pre-rally dinner where an excellent four-course meal was enjoyed by all. One of the original club founders, Alex Jackson, gave a brief insight into his own registrations after the dinner, followed by co-founder and retiring club Honorary Secretary, Steve Waldenberg, commenting on the club's future. An anniversary cake, set in a display of foreign number plates, was served to guests to enjoy over coffee.

The day after dawned bright, warm and sunny for our 40th anniversary rally and the field at Temple Newsam soon began to fill up with some superb vehicles, ably marshalled by club members Brian Damper, Dominic Chandler, Clifford Thoroughgood and Bernard Mansell.

Great registrations were in abundance and by noon there were almost 100 vehicles on display. The club operates a self-voting system at its rallies and voting cards were soon being returned to the rally control marquee for entering into the master results sheets.

The Lord Mayor of Leeds, Councillor Jane Dowson, joined us in the afternoon and happily presented the various class awards. The Mayoral car of Leeds bears the registration U 1 and club member Gareth Hudson, son of the late Malcolm Hudson, joined us with the reverse plate 1 U.

Thanks are due for all the assistance given before, during and after the rally, and to Brian and Wendy Mawson for the use of their mini marquee. Prizes were donated by several club members and some dealers helped us with sponsorship deals, allowing us to raise a significant sum to cover some of our costs. Pat Woodall generously provided the Noel Woodall trophy in his memory again this year and, in recognition of 40 years outstanding service to the RNC, the trophy for 2017 was awarded to retiring Honorary Secretary, Steve Waldenberg.

A word from the RNC

by Rod Lomax



Alwyn Stockdale - 1st Class 'L'
- Classic car with original number.



Ron Beardsell - 1st Class 'F' - Names.



Alan Dunnaker - 1st Class 'D'
- Owner's initials with No 1.



The Heaton family from Leeds with The Lord Mayor, Councillor Jane Dowson.



Forty club members enjoying the pre-rally dinner



Andrew Batten has been a postmaster for 20 years. Roche Post Office in St Austell, Cornwall was run by his father and grandfather before him and has been in the family for over 60 years.

"During my time dishing out the old car tax discs, I became very interested in other people's number plates," says Andrew. "My first plate, in 1999, was S11 AJB (my initials) on a Land Rover Freelander."

Andrew is an avid reader of this magazine and, in 2005, was thrilled to find a representation of his surname in the registration B47 TEN. "I bought it and gave it to my girlfriend, Rachel, on the day I asked her to marry me," he says. "It was first on her Peugeot 306 but, since the kids came along, she's upgraded to a 308 estate."

In 2012, Regtransfers came up trumps again, when Andrew found

BAT 73N on the website. "I had just purchased my BMW X3," says Andrew, and had to have the plate to put on the new car. They look great side by side."

Andrew also has a Classic 1946 Rover 10 with its original plate, JHW 400 - issued around 1946 in Bristol - and a Morris 8 (which is currently under heavy restoration).



The name 'Ads' - meaning 'lentils' in Arabic - dates from around 700 years ago, when Sami Ads's ancestors made a living selling edible pulses.

"The name is still common in my home country of Egypt," says Sami, "and the business started by my ancestors still exists today trading lentils and other similar beans."

Sami, from Berkshire, bought his first personalised registration plate, T5 ADS, from Regtransfers around five years ago for his wife, Taghrid.

"Since then," he says, "I have obtained one for each of the other members of the family: M5 ADS for my eldest son, Mohammed, S1 ADS for myself and I have recently completed the collection with A7 ADS for my son, Ahmed."



Prestigious

Businessman James Boon has purchased numerous personal number plates over the years, mostly related to one of his businesses, but until recently he had never owned a registration representing anything personal to him.

One day, while browsing for a registration for his son, whose 17th birthday was approaching, James spotted a registration that couldn't have been more appropriate for himself.

"I was staggered by just what good value this number was," says James. "Maybe it was just so niche to me that it limited the market somewhat but, for me, you couldn't really write it any better!"

J8 OON was for sale at a price that James felt he just couldn't refuse: he decided to

make an offer straight away. However, he still had his original mission to accomplish before he could complete the purchase.

"Before I treated myself I needed to find an appropriate present for our son, Anson".

James's perseverance paid off and he came across ANS 50N.

Anson is an actor and at the time he had just won a role in a major US TV series to be filmed in Budapest. Anson had also saved up and bought his first car, a Ford Fiesta. James and his wife, Debbie, thought that his efforts deserved a nice private number plate to go on his new car: something personal and relevant to their son that he could keep for life.

"When you think about it," says James, "a personalised plate is a fantastic present in this kind of situation. It is prestigious, it doesn't devalue, doesn't wear out or go out

of fashion. It is probably the best thing we could have bought for Anson".

Now that Anson and James have both added the perfect finishing touches to their cars, there is one more acquisition left to make.

"My wife is definitely next on the list", says James. "She currently has a number that relates to a business we sold last year, so the time is right to start looking out for something more personal, and it's going to have to be really special to match up to the ones currently on our drive!"



“It is prestigious, it doesn't devalue, doesn't wear out or go out of fashion.”



Sold!

It should be obvious why estate agent Michael Rodgers from Holywood in County Down chose his car registrations. However, Michael is no newcomer to personal number plates. He got his first in 1986 but more recently decided that it was time for a change.

"I suppose my interest in car number plates started when I was a child," he recalls. "My father had a number of cars with interesting numbers. The earliest I recall was HVG 444F, which was on a red Ford Corsair. It was a lovely car with interesting styling; quite progressive for its time. My brother, sister and I enjoyed it, especially on Sunday runs!

"Later, when we moved to Chelmsford in Essex, we lived at number 333. At that time my father bought an electric blue Ford Cortina with black vinyl roof and my mother bought an electric blue Ford Capri, also with black vinyl roof. The registrations of both cars contained '333'.

"During the early 1980s, my father bought a BMW from a dealership in Belfast. The purchase was conditional upon having a memorable registration number included, something dealerships were able to do in those days. With some persuasion, PIJ 4 was acquired which my brother now has on his F Type."

Michael's first personal number plate was MGR 628. "It lived on a red Porsche 911, silver BMW M5, silver Mercedes CL 500 and various other cars before I sold it," he says.

Michael purchased S11 OLD and RB51 OLD through Regtransfers. "I have always found their service to be fast, efficient, helpful and

professional," he says. "Apart from raising a smile with clients and passers-by, the numbers are unique advertising vehicles (literally!) and add to the friendly rivalry with our competitors. There is always a dawn of recognition when I see people looking at the number and mouthing the registration as they realise the connection with the number and 'sold'. It is very distinctive and great fun!"

Having been an estate agent for over 40 years, Michael is always trying to keep up to date with technology and new ideas to keep the business fresh, interesting

“I have always found their service to be fast, efficient, helpful and professional.”

and effective. "Registration numbers are certainly a novel way of promoting ourselves," he declares.

www.rodgersandbrowne.co.uk

**RODGERS
&
BROWNE**





Built on Self Success

When 24-year-old Sukhpreet Dharni from Nottingham first arrived in this country from India 13 years ago, he knew only one word of English, 'Boss'. Naturally, he used it a lot and applied it to almost everyone he met. Such is the nature of things that the word became his own nickname which still sticks.

Now, Sukhpreet is well and truly his own boss. "I run a few businesses, I buy houses and put them up for rent, I buy

and sell cars, I sell clothes, I export. I invest in shares, I have online businesses running in 25 countries," he says.

For his 20th birthday, Sukhpreet decided to celebrate his success with a personal number plate. "I had checked other sites, but Regtransfers were the cheapest and offered the best matching with my name the way I wanted. This number plate will stay with me all my life. I am my own B.O.S.S (Built On Self Success). I am also

a very loving person so when I looked at BO55 XSX it had everything I was looking for, including an S for 'Singh' and X for 'Love'.

"All the Regtransfers team are amazing," Sukhpreet concludes. "Every time I ring, they help me so much. I always recommend Regtransfers to my family and friends."



For the latest news and articles and to subscribe to our online newsletter, please visit www.regtransfers.co.uk/news

BBC Consults Regtransfers Over Police Number Plate Controversy



Composite image for illustrative purposes

Regtransfers.co.uk, the UK's largest private number plates dealer has answered questions from the BBC about the controversial sale of a valuable police asset.

In early August 2017, West Mercia Police and John Campion, West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner, sold the vehicle registration number AB 1, to former Chief Constable Paul West.

AB 1, previously owned by West Mercia Police and displayed on chief constables' cars for some years, was retired from use in 2011 due to "safety concerns". 2011 was when Paul West retired, and he was the last chief constable to display AB 1 on his car.

Mr Campion said that, as there was no prospect of the number being used again, he decided to sell it to raise money "towards policing our communities and keeping people safe."

AB 1 was entered into an auction at auctioneers Brightwells but was withdrawn before the sale took place and sold privately to Mr West.

During an interview with BBC Hereford and Worcester, Regtransfers.co.uk's marketing manager, Angela Banh, expressed surprise at the withdrawal of AB 1 from auction and at the £160,000 sum reportedly paid by Mr West.

Ms Banh said, "It is really one of the top registrations in the country. If we were to value it we would probably put a valuation of somewhere around the £175,000 mark. But if it went for [auction] sale, once it was made available, then we would see it probably fetching a lot more than that. You could be looking at half a million pounds or more. It really does depend. Really, the only way to find out its true value is to go to auction. We think it would have gone for more and we were surprised that it didn't go to auction."

When interviewed on the same radio breakfast show, Mr West would neither confirm nor deny the price. The Police and Crime Commissioner declined to participate in the conversation.

Breakfast presenter Elliott Webb said, "It does seem that they've completely chucked this away for very little money." [1]

A BBC source told Regtransfers.co.uk that the Corporation had been told "officially" that the sum paid by Mr West was £160,000. [2]

The Policeprofessional.com website stated, "Mr West says he would have been prepared to pay more than the guide price quoted by regplates.com of up to £275,000[...]" [3]

For context, earlier sales of similar registrations achieved the following prices:

GB 1 sold for £325,000 (2009)

GN 1 sold for £260,146 (2016)

GS 1 sold for £258,775 (2005)

Which raises the question, if AB 1 could have made up to £500,000 at auction, and if Mr West would have paid £275,000 or more to acquire it, why was the number withdrawn from auction and, reportedly, sold to Mr West for just £160,000?

The media and the local community have been seeking answers to this and other questions. At the time of writing, answers had not been forthcoming from the Police and Crime Commissioner and the auctioneer.

Sources:

1. BBC Hereford & Worcester – "Elliott and Toni at Breakfast", 11/08/2017.
2. Email from BBC employee to Regtransfers.co.uk
3. www.policeprofessional.com

The Future of Automotive Technology



Fasten your seat belts, you're in for quite a ride when it comes to the future of automotive technology

The cars that we are used to seeing in movies are no longer things of science fiction and in the next 30 years, we are likely to see more change in automotive

technology than we've seen in the last 100 years.

Here at Regtransfers, we've pulled together some of the best and most likely automotive technology predictions that are expected to become reality in your lifetime in our new interactive graphic.

Did you know that by 2020, we will be able to control our cars with a simple wave of the hand? The next big tech development likely to invade cars will require only a few simple gestures to control.

From turning on the radio, opening the windows and turning off the engine, hand gestures will be a common way for us to control our car's functions.

In the same year it's also expected that you'll be able to unlock and even start your car without anything more than just your fingerprint. Finally, the struggle to find your car keys on a Monday morning will be a thing of the past!

Light detection and ranging systems will allow your car to 'see' the world around it in real time by 2021. This will mean that your car will sense surrounding objects and other cars on the road to extend the driver's perception of what's nearby.

Are you sick of sitting in traffic jams on your commute to work and wasting valuable time? By 2026, a car's cabin will be configured to change depending on the driving mode — relax, watch a film or catch up on your emails. Volvo predicts that drivers can gain 26 minutes of free time per commute by switching to a self-driving car.

Fast forward to 2027 and you won't be visiting your local garage for new car tyres, you'll be fitting your car with 3D-printed tyres. Not only do they never go flat, but they also don't need replacing!

By 2050 the exterior paint of your car will incorporate millions of nano-sized cameras linked to a display inside the vehicle. As a result, you'll be able to see through the body panels as if they were invisible (which means no blind spots), while also zooming in on distant traffic signs.

Using our interactive future of automotive technology infographic, you can enter your age and find at how old you'll be when you'll be driving a self-driving car, using 3D-printed tyres and be able to see straight through your car's body panels (yep, it's true!)

What automotive technology will you be using in your lifetime? Find out using our new interactive graphic at: www.regtransfers.co.uk/content/

Social Media GALLERY



Here is a selection of some great number plates that have been spotted by our followers.

To see more pictures, follow us on Facebook, Twitter and now Instagram.



twitter.com/regtransfers



facebook.com/regtransfers



instagram.com/regtransfers



How have you done that?

“We were very impressed with the efficiency of everything.”



Luke Anderson, a recovery truck driver from South Yorkshire, had always wanted a private registration but could never find the right one within his price range.

“I was driving along one day and suddenly thought my son’s name, Kaden, could work as a registration as K4 DEN or KAD 3N,” recalls Luke.

“I put them into a checker app on my phone which showed they were both already assigned to vehicles so didn’t hold out much hope. But then I thought to look on the Regtransfers app which showed KAD 3N was available. I sent a picture of it to my fiancée, Devon, Kaden’s mum, who said it was up to me. Kaden is only five but I couldn’t miss the chance to buy it and a few weeks later it was mine.”

Luke put the plates on the car one night while Kaden was fast asleep in bed. The next morning as they left the house, Devon asked Kaden if he had checked the car as he likes to scrape the windows on frosty mornings. Kaden replied that the windows weren’t icy. His mum asked if he had noticed anything different about the car and Kaden’s eyes lit when he saw the new registration. “How have you done that?” he asked.

“Kaden now loves to show off to everyone how our car is his car,” says his dad, “and I now need to find registrations for his older brother and sister!”



A no-brainer

After a very rough year, health-wise, Leithan Cradick was given the all clear at the end of December 2016. As one might expect, Leithan felt a considerable sense of relief and found himself in the mood to splash out in celebration. He was excited to find that he could purchase his perfect name number plate, LEI7 HAN, from Regtransfers.co.uk. As Leithan puts it: “It was a no-brainer!”

This particular name registration may be considered a little more significant than most. As far as Leithan is aware, he was the very first person in the world to be given this very unusual forename, some 63 years ago. He is aware of only five other people in the world who share the moniker.

Leithan took advantage of his chance to snap up LEI7 HAN, deciding that it simply had to reside on the new BMW he had just purchased from Chris Chapman of Sycamore in Peterborough. “I would highly recommend Chris and Sycamore to anyone,” says Leithan. “They really go that extra mile to give a first class service”.

Leithan, who owns and runs a highly successful media, marketing and design business says, “Having the plate enhances the brand image of the company.”

www.sycamorebmw.co.uk



Rotherham Glass & Glazing supply and fit a full range of glass products from individual pieces of greenhouse glass to full-house uPVC window and door installations. Chris Nicholson started the business in 1987 in a small factory unit on the Barbot Hall Industrial Estate in Rotherham and then moved to a new unit on Greasborough Street in 1993. After five more years of continual growth, the company once again needed larger premises and moved the glass side of the business to a purpose built factory unit on Taylors Lane from where it operates today.

Chris is not only the driving force behind the business but he is also responsible for the nationwide site surveying of the company's ATM installation contracts.

"Receiving great feedback from customers and the knowledge that we offer a great

product and service motivates us," says Chris. "We are always looking to improve and grow the business, but at the right pace to ensure that we never compromise our levels of customer service. Our ultimate ambition is to be the first name in people's minds in our area when they are thinking about glass and glazing."

One of the highlights of the company's history was a five-year corporate hospitality deal with Rotherham United Football Club when they first moved into their brand new stadium.

Chris came up with the idea of having private registration plates on all the company vehicles, which he thought would be great for extra branding. This has proved to be very successful and

many of their customers have commented on the private plates.

Office Manager Suzanne Beever has RG09 SUE and Operations Manager Steve Rudman has S9 RGG. Other vehicles in the fleet are numbered T2 RGG, RG06 RGG, RG55 RGG, S9 RGG, R26 RGG, P2 RGG and RGO4 RGG

Chris also has his own personal plate, CN 35 - his initials plus his age at the time. Other members of the team also have their own personal registrations.

"It has always been so easy to purchase our vehicle registrations through Regtransfers," says Chris. "The number plates are always ready to be put on the vehicles within a few days. Our latest acquisition is our seventh and, as the company grows, it won't be our last!"

www.rotherhamglass.co.uk

“It has always been so easy to purchase through Regtransfers. The plates are always ready to be put on the vehicles within a few days.”



The Perfect Present

The festive season approaches once again, and with it comes the prospect of Christmas shopping for gifts - along with the attendant weeping, wailing, gnashing of teeth, tearing of hair, wringing of hands and raised blood pressure.

All right, perhaps that's a tad melodramatic, but few would deny that choosing gifts only gets more

challenging as time passes. As you no doubt suspect, we have the solution!

Seriously, personal registrations do make the most excellent gifts. Many of our customers tell us that they received theirs as presents.

There are private number plates to suit all budgets, and few gifts are as personal and as long-lasting.

They are constantly visible and bring great enjoyment to the loved one who receives them.

We can supply registrations on a set of high-quality front and rear acrylic plates, or on a certificate which can be used at a later date. Either way, they make ideal gifts.

Call now or search online at:
www.regtransfers.co.uk

