GP MONACO
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THE RED BULLETIN

AN ALMOST INDEPENDENT F1 NEWSPAPER



GP MONACO 2007

JUST ONE MORE STEP

As Lewis Hamilton fever builds and builds the man himself arrived in the Principality the championship leader, and a driver who has never lost on these twisty streets. Bet and Win and William Hill are both offering odds of 4/1 on Hamilton climbing to the top step on Sunday.

24.5.07 MONACO THURSDAY

Monaco's always special. It's the only true street race, it attracts the A-list celebrity crowd and the bar prices are off the scale. But this year, things are even more dramatic. We have a new (pretty glamorous himself) championship leader, a new lap dancing club has set up shop and there are even rumours flying about that we're going to be returning to Suzuka. Plus people in the Paddock are celebrating in style. You thought last year in Monte Carlo was dramatic? Bring on 2007...

GOOD CATCH

In our post-race edition in Spain, we published a picture of the dramatic moment when Toyota mechanic Jens Luy picked up the flying BMW wheel nut belonging to Nick Heidfeld.

So what was his take on BMW's error? "There were two failures: they dropped the car off the front jack too early, then they raised the lollipop before the nut was tightened properly. As Heidfeld drove away, the wheel nut flew off into our pit box and I stopped it with my foot.

"I picked it up and tried to give it back to them but they didn't seem interested – it was as if they didn't realise it had just come off their man's car!"



WHEEL NUT DROP

SUZUKA RISES AGAIN?

Rumour of the weekend has it that Suzuka might be making a reappearance on the race calendar sooner than expected. It's all idle gossip so far but word has it that the venerable Honda-owned track could be back with us as early as next year. The circuit was the subject of speculation last year as the long gap in the calendar between Australia and Malaysia left many speculating on a double visit to Japan this season. It didn't happen but Honda CEO Takeo Fukui, in an end of year speech in 2006 insisted that: "Through Mobilityland Corporation, Honda will continue negotiating toward hosting an F1 race again at Suzuka Circuit."

To that end he promised: "Honda will renovate Suzuka Circuit with the goal to achieve the further evolution of mobility and motor sports. The pits and paddocks on the race course will be overhauled." Pacific Grand Prix '08 anyone? ➜



PHOTOGRAPHY: LAT, SUTTON IMAGES, GETTY IMAGES. COVER: MAT MAITLAND.

BULLHORN: THE VIEW FROM THE TRUCK

Flying in hyper space

BY JUSTIN HYNES

You get a bit jaded about Monaco. All through the year you spend hours on planes sitting beside people asking you if you go to all the races, all the parties, if you meet all the drivers. And, inevitably, they always ask about Monaco. "Oh, the one I really want to go to," they say. "It must be the most glamorous thing." And, inevitably, F1 people dismiss it.

"It's awful," we whine. "So hard to work there. Too many people. A hassle. Full of poseurs."

Rubbish. Monaco's wonderful. At what other race can the mere mortals of the paddock choose a helicopter ride from airport to circuit over a taxi trip? And when the chopper dips its nose toward the heliport, you get the most tantalising glimpse of Monaco harbour, bathed in the bright sunshine of the Côte D'Azur. If this isn't glamour, what is?

'THIS IS THE ONE RACE WEEKEND WHERE ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN – FROM A GREAT RACE TO A GREAT NIGHT OUT'

It's hard not to feel a frisson of excitement every time you come to Monaco. Sure, it's over-crowded and oversold but it's the mayhem that makes it great. This is the race weekend where anything can happen – from great race to a night out that will become legend among your colleagues. It's the best playground we have. To deny it would be to have truly become jaded. The 18th-century English writer Samuel Johnson wrote that if a man is tired of London he is tired of life. In F1, the same could be said about Monaco.

This weekend the excitement is heightened by the hype surrounding the championship leader. In the UK, a jingoistic TV programme voted for Great Britons of the year. Lewis Hamilton was among the nominees. Last year, no-one in the UK knew his name but now he is battling it out with such phenomenal characters as Sir Ranulph Fiennes.

Not that Lewis doesn't deserve recognition. What he is achieving is formidable but it is too much hype too soon. F1 is a hothouse at the best of times. Relentlessly increasing the temperature around Lewis can't be good for anyone.



➜ SUPER CELEBRATIONS

You'd have been mistaken for thinking that Taku had been crowned champion in Barcelona when he scooped Super Aguri's first ever point.

And there are more reasons to cheer down at the littlest team this weekend, as number one mechanic 'Big' Nick Howe and electronics man Michael Harre toast their birthdays (33 and 29 respectively) today.

Apparently they'll be getting up to no good at the Club Milady later. And tomorrow night, friends of press officers Emma Bearpark and Will Buxton will be convening at the Rascasse bar to celebrate their engagement. It will be one year to the day that couple first got together, in that very bar. Drinks kick off at 9pm. We asked excitedly about an open bar, but Will says he blew all his cash on the ring. Congratulations

THEY'RE OBSESSED

Lord love the British. It's only May, but already their lack of sporting heroes means that Lewis Hamilton was nominated for a 'Great Briton 2007' award.

Yes, it's only four races in and, yes, he hasn't actually won anything yet, but such is the shallow pool of UK athletic talent that Hamilton qualified. So who were the other nominees? Joe Calzaghe and the eventual winner polar explorer Sir Ranulph Fiennes.

No, we didn't think climbing mountains and walking across the Antarctic was a sport either, but he was a winner in the Brits' eyes.

The prize for greatest living Briton went to the Queen. Presumably she can put that crown with her others.

Another big winner was ITV in this week's British Academy of Film and Television Awards. Their coverage of Jenson Button's win in Hungary last year won the gong for best sporting coverage of 2006.

A WALK IN THE PARK

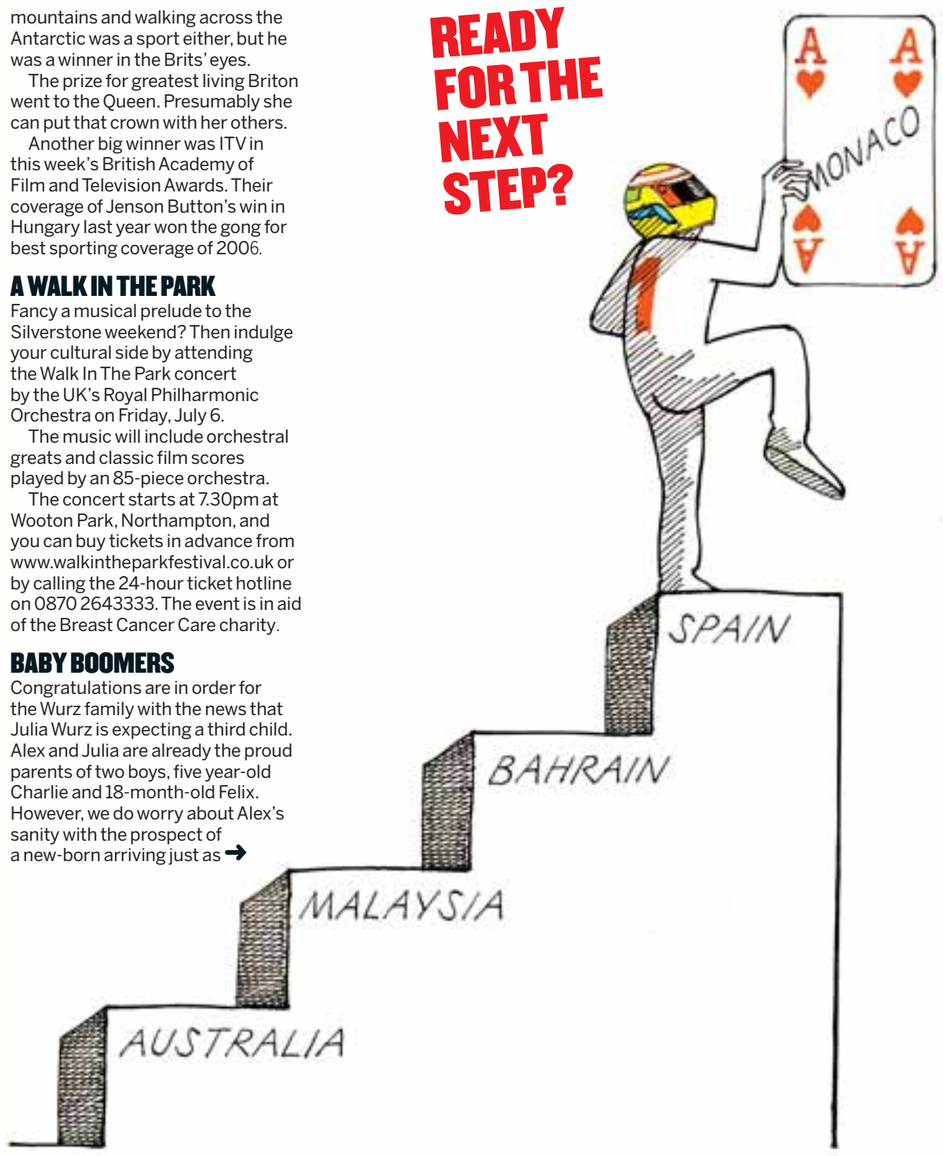
Fancy a musical prelude to the Silverstone weekend? Then indulge your cultural side by attending the Walk In The Park concert by the UK's Royal Philharmonic Orchestra on Friday, July 6.

The music will include orchestral greats and classic film scores played by an 85-piece orchestra.

The concert starts at 7.30pm at Wooton Park, Northampton, and you can buy tickets in advance from www.walkintheparkfestival.co.uk or by calling the 24-hour ticket hotline on 0870 2643333. The event is in aid of the Breast Cancer Care charity.

BABY BOOMERS

Congratulations are in order for the Wurz family with the news that Julia Wurz is expecting a third child. Alex and Julia are already the proud parents of two boys, five year-old Charlie and 18-month-old Felix. However, we do worry about Alex's sanity with the prospect of a new-born arriving just as ➜



DON'T WORRY, BE HAPPY

Don MacPherson is known to many F1 drivers as a mind coach, helping sportsmen deal with the pressures of their game and channel their energies.

But now it appears he's on the verge of a chart hit. 'The Mindbender', as he's become known, has released the spoken-word Happy Song, along with a smart animated video, to "be uplifting and put a smile on peoples faces," says Don. "It escaped really, rather than being officially released. I put it on YouTube and suddenly it was on a radio show.

"It's really a cheery piss-take of the self-help business. Those guys take themselves too seriously, which I don't do at all. To my absolute horror it might be a hit – you can even download it on iTunes! When David Coulthard saw the video he called me up in hysterics."

To find out what made DC chuckle, go to www.youtube.com and search for Happy + Song + Mindbender.

SPYKER SET SAIL

Mike Gascoyne adores sailing and arrived in Monaco aboard his 50ft Bavaria yacht. "It took two and a half days from Barcelona, which is where I keep it year round and where I stay during tests, too. I skipper it and my partner Sylvie crews for me. My dad used to run the Norfolk Schools Sailing Association and I learned from him. I love the freedom I get from sailing."

The Spyker technical director bought the 'Janine' in 2001 and it got an overhaul while Mike was on leave from Toyota last year. In August he's expecting delivery of a Class 40 offshore racing boat, which he intends to take on transatlantic races. "There's life after motor racing. Sylvie's got into it and we want to do lots of sailing, maybe a circumnavigation. I have another boat too, which is chartered, so it could all grow into a nice business."

Mike is hosting the F1 media aboard the Janine, in Cap d'Ail tonight at 6pm. If you go, ask to see his tattoo – such is the bond between the engineer and his vessel, he's had the image of the boat etched into his back.

ON THIS DAY...

MAY 24

1964 Dan Gurney claims the first ever pole position for the Brabham team at the Dutch Grand Prix



Dan Gurney talks about racing
YouTube.com Search: Gurney + Car + Crazy

1626 The Dutch trader Peter Minuit buys Manhattan island from the native Americans for 60 guilders



Celebrate New York, New York
YouTube.com Search: Moby + Blondie + New York

1956 The first Eurovision Song Contest is held in Lugano, Switzerland and is won by the host nation.



Sing along to Poupée de Cire, Poupée de Son
YouTube.com Search: Gall + Eurovision + Poupee

BIRTHS

1941: Bob Dylan, American singer and songwriter. Play Dylan karaoke with Subterranean Homesick Blues.
YouTube.com Search: Dylan + Subterranean

1966: Eric Cantona, artist, philosopher, martial artist, actor... and footballer. Say Ooh! Ah! Cantona
YouTube.com Search: Cantona + Goals

DEATHS

1969: Willy Ley (born 1906), German rocket scientist and space exploration pioneer. Experiments in combustion
YouTube.com Search: Watching + Coke + Diet

ON THIS RACE DAY...

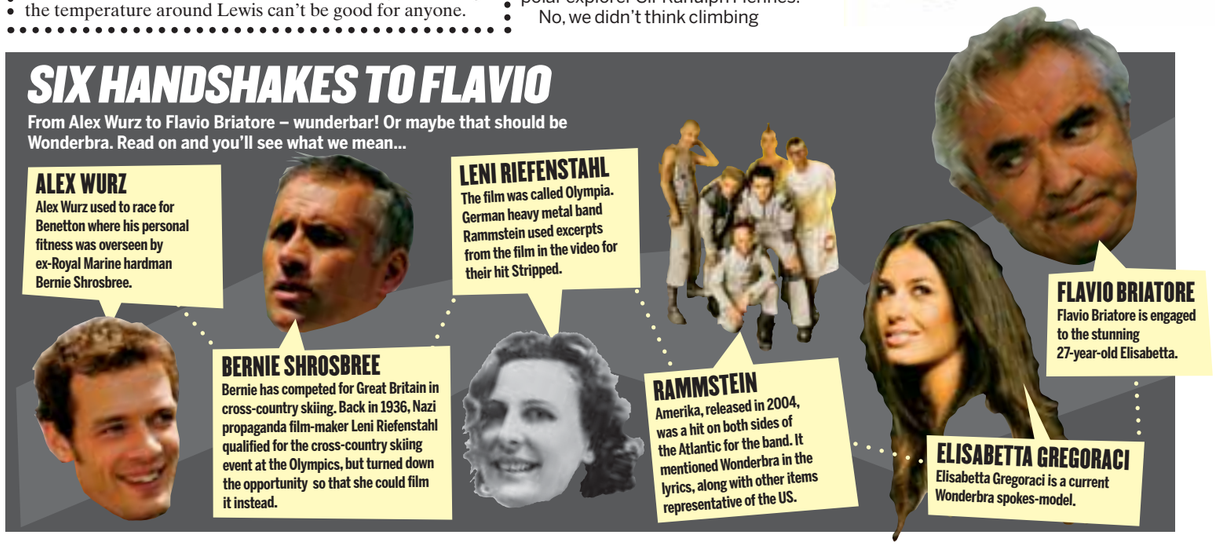


1998 Eddie Irvine gets his 10th podium finish at Monaco.

Watch the race highlights
YouTube.com Search: Monaco + Mika + 1998

SIX HANDSHAKES TO FLAVIO

From Alex Wurz to Flavio Briatore – wunderbar! Or maybe that should be Wonderbra. Read on and you'll see what we mean...



PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTY IMAGES, SUTTON IMAGES, THOMAS BUTLER. ILLUSTRATION: KAINRATH

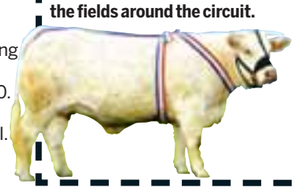
➜ young Felix is midway through the terrible twos. No sleep for Alex and Julia 'til 2010 then.

LAP TIMES

Peter Stringfellow may not be a name familiar to many Europeans but in Britain's tabloids the ageing lothario with a bad '80s hairstyle is a regular fixture on the gossip pages. Why? He owns a couple of London's most successful lapdancing clubs and now he's setting up in Monaco. The Pole Position club above Stars and Bars will host Stringfellow's each night of this weekend with dancers from Peter's London and Paris clubs. Monaco pricing prevails though, so for a VIP table of four you're going to have to pay €1600. If it's your thing, maybe Montreal in two weeks' time will be a cheaper thrill. Of course, for us sensitive souls at Bulletin Towers it's all a bit too risqué.

NAME THAT COW!

You may be going to the French Grand Prix but if you fancy bringing a couple of friends, then why not enter our exclusive competition? We've got two VIP tickets to the race to give away as well as flights and accommodation. To win them, all you have to do is come up with a suitable name for one of the cows that live in the fields around the circuit.



Prize includes:
- Two three-day grandstand seats
- Transportation (flights or ferry limited to Europe only)
- Two VIP invitations to the Saturday Grand Prix Music Festival
- Hotel accommodation

Email your suggested name to *secret.service@theredbulletin.com*. The winner will be chosen by a panel of Formula One personalities. Their decision is final. Entries must be submitted by midnight BST on June 1. The winner of the Grand Prix de France/Red Bulletin competition will be notified by June 15, 2007.

YOU'VE BEEN SHAMED

If you work in the paddock, you need to keep your eyes open. The roving Bull's Eye is always there to capture the moments you'd rather forget – and then add an amusing caption.



It might only be a cracked fingernail to you and me, but the other photographers knew Mark Sutton was about to get really, really angry.



At least once a year, DC had to tell the old joke about why women were so bad at parking cars: "...because they think this is 30 centimetres!"



"Now that I'm not racing, the thing with Felipe is it feels really strange giving good advice to a Brazilian driver after all the rubbish I told you when we were team-mates."



Now that it was easy to see what compounds the opposition were using, the tyre-spotters were able to devote entire practice sessions to their new-found passion for Sudoku.





"Yes that's good. Now put your arms out, then touch the tip of your nose with your left hand, or we cannot let you drive."

"Mr Kolles, Mr Kolles, come quick. I think Christijan has been at the Advocaat again!"



Here at The Red Bulletin we pride ourselves on only using spontaneous, unposed photos.



The race had started, crossing the track was dangerous, but once he heard they were auditioning for a Village People tribute band, nothing could stop him.



Geography had never been Jenson's strongest subject at school, so he was quite prepared to accept there had always been a huge floating MP3 player in the middle of the Atlantic.

PHOTOGRAPHY: THOMAS BUTLER, LUKAS GORYS, MURIEL BROUSSEAU, GRAND PRIX PHOTO, CRISPIN THRUSTON

TRACK RECORD

Monaco demands 40 gear changes per lap, which only leaves Tonio Liuzzi time to answer 10 questions.



1 WINE OR BEER?
WINE

2 FAVOURITE FILM OF ALL TIME?
POINT BREAK

3 WHAT SONG DO YOU WISH YOU HAD WRITTEN?
CONFESSIONS, BY USHER

4 WHAT WORDS OR PHRASES DO YOU USE TOO OFTEN?
THANKS

5 WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO AFTER F1?
FLY ACROBATIC AEROPLANES

6 FAVOURITE DRIVER OF ALL TIME?
NIGEL MANSELL

7 2007: VINTAGE YEAR OR RUN-OF THE MILL?
IT'S GOING TO BE A GOODY EAR

8 IF YOU RAN F1, WHAT'S THE FIRST THING YOU'D CHANGE...
NOTHING

9 WHO WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO SHAKE HANDS WITH?
NO-ONE IN PARTICULAR

10 DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS?
THREE DOGS: CLOE, KLAUS AND PENELOPE



PHOTOGRAPHY: SUTTON IMAGES. ILLUSTRATION: EMERIC DE BARÉ

10 ANSWERS IN 1:14.439 FASTEST LAP

NAME: TONIO LIUZZI
NATIONALITY: ITALIAN
OCCUPATION: SCUDERIA TORO ROSSO F1 DRIVER

GP2 EITHER OR

Cruelly forcing drivers to make a choice...



NAME: KARUN CHANDHOK
NATIONALITY: INDIAN
TEAM: DURANGO

1 Kimi Raikkonen or Fernando Alonso?
Kimi – incredible to watch on a qualifying lap

2 Karts or Formula BMW?
Karts

3 Pasta or rice?
Rice – with curry

4 iPod or PSP?
iPod

5 Nightclub or home?
Home – I can't be bothered to go out...

6 Wine or water?
Water

7 Reading or shopping?
Reading definitely – shopping bores me to death...

8 Monaco or Spa?
Spa... Even the air you breathe there feels special

9 Ferrari or Ducati?
Ferrari

10 CART or NASCAR?
CART

11 Yacht or plane?
Plane – I'm paranoid about being at sea

12 Supermodel or girl next door?
Girl next door – supermodel tantrums would do my head in !!

13 Rock or hip-hop?
Rock – I hate hip-hop

14 Boxers or briefs?
I'll wear either – it depends on my mood...

15 Cinema or DVD?
DVD – like I said, I can't be bothered to go out

16 Monaco apartment or Swiss chalet?
Swiss chalet – I absolutely love Switzerland

17 Flavio or Ron?
Not sure, although I'd love to work with both at some stage...

18 Traction control or power slides?
Traction control – anything that makes the cars quicker is good

19 Wet race or dry race?
Dry race if you're driving – wet if you're watching it on the television...

20 Money or glory?
Glory – you can't beat the feeling of a good qualifying or good race

GP TOO

The championship is wide open so far...



Brazil expects: carrying on the country's driving ambitions, Lucas di Grassi.

PHOTOGRAPHY: SUTTON IMAGES, ANDREW FERRARO/GP2 MEDIA SERVICE

STREET ARTIST



... But here on the roads of Monaco, one driver who believes he has a great chance is ART's Lucas di Grassi.

Street racing is fantastic. In 2005 I won the F3 race in Macao, last year I set the GP2 fastest lap here for Durango. They're tough tracks, you're on the limit all of the time. Monaco is more physical than Macao because Macao has long straights where you can rest. Monaco you are turning all the time. But both are great!

ART is very different to Durango. Last season we all learnt a lot about developing a car. As the season went on the car came from nowhere to be really quick. I came to understand that a driver's job is about more than just driving. At ART the team is already at the top, so it's more about delivering results. It's a big difference, but for me the two experiences are complimentary. When I get to F1 I'll need to be able to develop a car and, hopefully, race a car that's already fast.

GP2 is a fine series with cars that are intentionally difficult to drive. Are they tougher than F1 cars? Well, I've been driving for Renault F1 and I don't believe this is true. F1 cars are faster and more demanding on your reflexes – you need to be very well prepared to drive one quickly. In terms of raw driving, however, GP2 lacks the driver aids F1 has. It makes you work and rewards you and your engineers for doing a good job. The aim is to prepare drivers – and engineers – for F1 by giving them a tough, competitive environment in which to show their qualities. I'm not surprised that Hamilton is doing so well in F1 after racing in GP2. Rosberg, too.

I'm one of many Brazilians in the series this year. It's good to have plenty of us here because it raises interest in the Brazilian media, which in turn raises the profile of the series with Brazilian business. It's good to have names like Senna and Piquet associated with GP2 – those names carry a lot of weight back home.

Most of the young drivers in Brazil today are going into the Brazilian stock car series. It's easy: you live with your parents, you go to university, you race stock cars in Brazil, you make some money and that's it. Europe is less attractive than a few years ago when there was no national class to race in. Having lots of Brazilians coming through in GP2 is important to ensure Brazil continues to have a strong showing in F1.

PIOLA'S CLASSICS: MARCH 701

Although it had its detractors, the March team's first car was not the unmitigated disaster that many would have us believe. At least not according to the men behind the design and behind the wheel.



- DESIGNER: **ROBIN HERD**
- DRIVERS: **JACKIE STEWART, JOHNNY SERVOZ-GAVIN, FRANÇOIS CEVERT, CHRIS AMON, JO SIFFERT, MARIO ANDRETTI, RONNIE PETERSON, HUBERT HAHNE**
- INTRODUCED: **1970**

PASSING NOTES

- **MARCH'S FIRST FORMULA ONE CAR**
- DESIGNED AND BUILT IN 10 WEEKS
- **COST £6000, LESS ENGINE**
- POWERED BY UBIQUITOUS FORD COSWORTH DFV
- **RUN BY WORKS, STP CORP, TYRRELL, COLIN CRABBE AND HAHNE TEAMS**
- STEWART AND AMON SET IDENTICAL FASTEST TIMES FOR FRONT ROW AT FIRST RACE AT KYALAMI
- **SCORED THREE POLES, ONE WIN, ONE FASTEST LAP, EIGHT PODIUMS**
- SCORED 55 POINTS IN 1970
- **THIRD IN CONSTRUCTORS CHAMPIONSHIP**

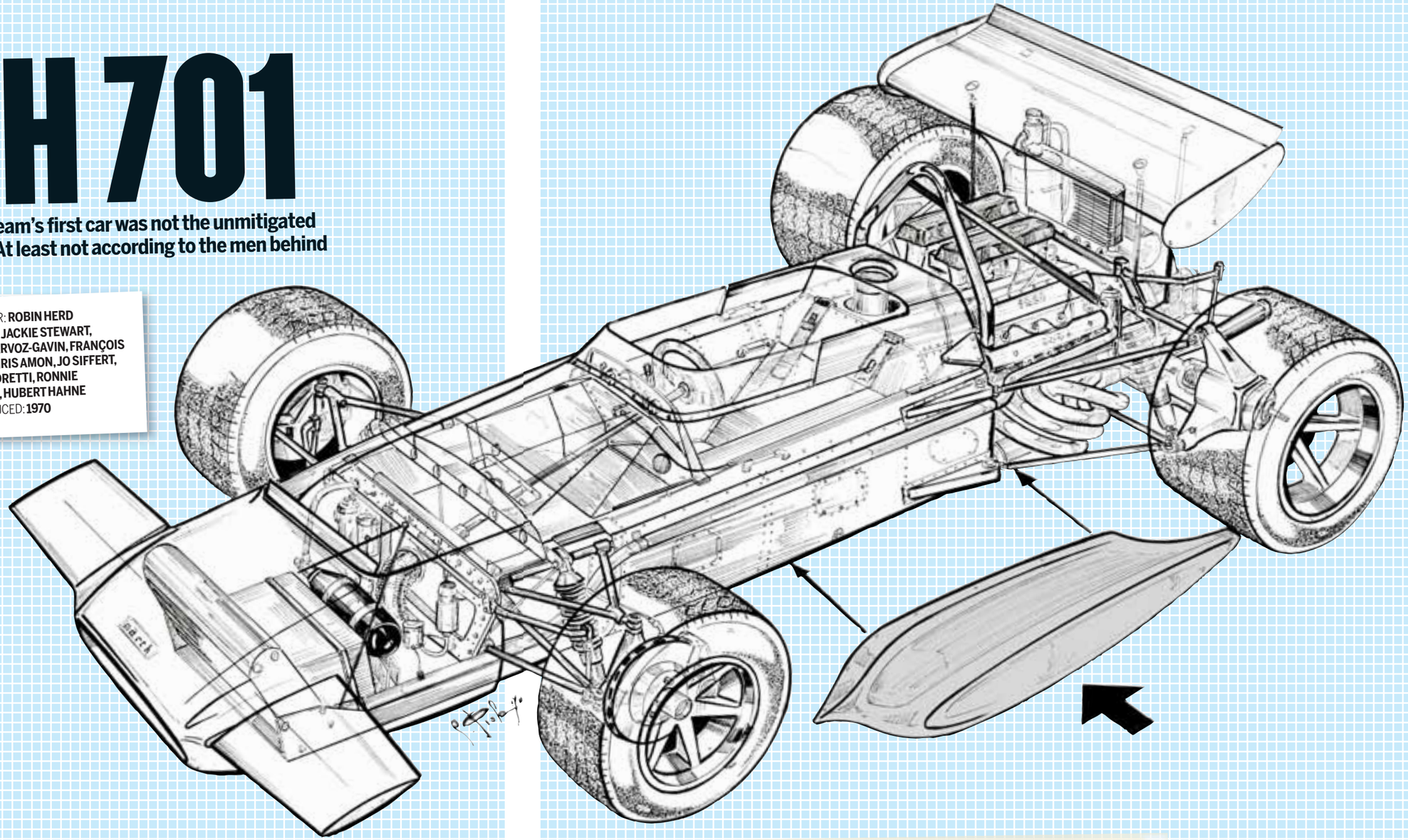






ILLUSTRATION: GIORGIO PIOLA. PHOTOGRAPHY: SUTTON IMAGES

GIORGIO PIOLA



This was the first March, so it had to be a very simple car. It was like a production car, but it was very important because it was the foundation of a new team. The only interesting thing was the wing in the side pod – nothing else. The first true wing car was the Lotus 78 in 1977, but in fact we had already seen the first wing section applied to the first March chassis seven years earlier in 1970. But the 701 is a good example of a situation where one clever idea, if it's not integrated with all the rest of the car, doesn't actually mean anything. So having the wings in that position on the car didn't really do anything. The effect was purely cosmetic. Otherwise, the car was very conventional.

ROBIN HERD, DESIGNER



It was considered Formula One's most disastrous car of all time. That amuses me. Do you know, Jackie Stewart's average grid position in the 701 was higher than it was in the Matra in which he won the championship the previous year? Max (Mosley) came to see us and said: "Great. Done the deal. We need the car at Silverstone in 10 weeks' time." At the time, all we had was an empty warehouse. "And we will be running two cars in front of the world's press, Amon and Stewart will be driving." Great, Max! I lost one-and-a-half stone (9.5kg). It was so conventional because it had to be designed and built in 10 weeks. We thought we could get downforce from a side wing. The wings doubled as detachable fuel tanks for long distance, or we could run them empty for downforce.

JACKIE STEWART, DRIVER



Did you see me flinch? The car was actually not slow, it was quite fast. But it was very difficult to drive: it was poor over undulations and bumps. It was a highly nervous car. A lot of compliance in it was unpredictable and therefore you were sort of sitting on the edge of your seat all of the time. So, it wasn't a particularly pleasant car to drive, but it was quite quick. They sold a lot of cars, probably in order to establish themselves as a team. With the benefit of hindsight, they probably sold too many cars, too soon. I had the side pods. I think they were all right. I'm not 100 per cent sure that they were actually doing anything but they probably were. I think they had fuel in them, too.

FORMULA UNA MONACO

The ladies having fun this weekend in Monte Carlo come from many different countries. They've all travelled to get here, but who will get the chance to go to the season finale in Brazil?



ESTEFANÍA BEJARANO
20, Student, from Equador

I love fashion and shoes. I have 27 pairs, but the ones I like best are my gold sandals – they're very fancy and very comfortable. My favourite place in the world that I've visited is the Galapagos islands. It's very relaxing there.



NADYA LÓPEZ
19, Student, from Panama

My favourite F1 driver is Fernando Alonso, I think he can win and be an excellent driver in any situation. He managed to win with Renault and he will do the same with Mclaren. I think he will be world champion.



MINA ZAKIPOUR
19, Student, from Sweden

I chose this as my personal favourite photo because it was right before we were going out and we had one of the best nights out ever. It looks like an everyday picture, but it brings back a lot of fun memories and that's the point with favourite photos – to help you remember.



KATJA SEMENOVA
24, Asset management associate, from Russia

I love travelling, although I travel a lot in my job. By meeting people and visiting other countries, I gain experience that develops my personality and helps me find my place on Earth.





HELOISE BIEN
23, Student, from the Netherlands

The bravest thing I've ever done is learning to dive. I used to be afraid of not getting enough oxygen and I dislike being under water. When I was a child, if I had to go swimming, I cried.

DANIELA GARCIA
19, Student, from Colombia

I would describe my character as sweet, calm and cheerful. In my spare time, I enjoy playing the guitar, horseback riding, listening to music and watching movies.





ADRIANA ARÉVALO
29, Journalist and script writer, from Venezuela

In my free time I love surfing and riding my bike. It's the best way to feel freedom, nature and excitement – the best way to feel pure adrenalin in your body.



REBECCA BLOMGREN
19, Personal trainer, from Sweden

This is a picture of me and a wild tiger. It means a lot to me because it symbolises me as a person; I don't fear things but I treat everything with respect.I also like this picture because it looks very natural.

TAHNEE FRIJTERS
21, Student, from the Netherlands

I really enjoy shopping. I love to have new clothes for every occasion. I like to hang out with my friends and laugh with them. I love to go dancing and I am also a movie addict. I like to see all the new action movies. I am a very social person and I like to meet new people and see new things.



PAOLA RAMIREZ
26, Business administrator, from Costa Rica

I enjoy practising flamenco dancing because it has a lot of strength and passion and I identify with this. The bravest thing I've ever done was my first flamenco performance at the National Theatre of Costa Rica in front of a lot of people.

10AM
Those trousers don't quite fit and we happen to know that the shoes aren't his size either. Yet even this can't prevent Coulthard looking super-cool, damn him.



11AM
David calls a halt to the shoot by reversing over the hapless photographer.





DC'S BIG DAY OFF

What's a 'normal' day for an F1 legend? Justin Hynes tags along with David Coulthard and discovers a bizarre, charming mix of racing-driver clichés, sexy interviewers (present company excepted) and, er, borrowed trousers. It's tough work maintaining a fantasy...

PHOTOGRAPHY: THOMAS BUTLER

David Coulthard's gunmetal blue jacket is almost exactly the same colour as the 1971 Mercedes 280SL convertible he's parking in front of the hotel he part-owns. He leans one Hugo Boss-covered arm on the doorframe, slips off his Oakley sunglasses and glances down into the wing mirror. It's impossibly glamorous, impossibly Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous…

And, sadly, it's a set-up. For as the 36-year-old Red Bull Racing driver focuses, all he sees in the mirror is the pop of a flashgun, and all he hears is a broad north London accent imploring him, "Now get aht of the car." Another day off, F1 driver-style.

In my head I had the notion of a piece in which a Formula One driver took us on a tour of his average day. So we'd go shopping – to Carrefour or Migros; we'd do laundry, hanging designer clothes from diamond-encrusted clothes pegs on a balcony boasting views of billion-dollar boats. We'd visit his accountant, get a takeaway, watch an episode of 24 on DVD.

Never going to happen. On this particular Saturday in Monaco, smack in the middle of a long break in testing and racing, David Coulthard hasn't got time for the mundane. It's 10am and there's a shoot for a coffee table book, first at Casino Square, then in various locations around his Columbus Hotel.

At midday he has to talk to me, then it's three hours with German television as they crank up the style quotient by taking him jogging, helicoptering and yachting, their high-glamour presenter chatting amiably with the star as though champagne on a 30-foot Sunseeker is something they both do every morning.

In between are the onlookers – largely middle-aged British tourists, who politely collar Coulthard for obligatory arm-around-the-shoulder shots and small talk. Coulthard's desire to make it to Rafael Nadal's Monaco Masters semi-final match against Tomas Berdych is looking very shaky indeed. Nevertheless, through it all he's unfailingly polite. Never too hasty, but likewise never over-friendly enough to encourage the autograph hunters to outstay their welcome.

"A real gentleman," one says, after Coulthard has wished them a pleasant stay in the principality. "Not like most of them," says her husband, though it's never clear who exactly most of them are. Racing drivers? Scotsmen?

Is this a regular day off? Hardly. The Boss suit he is wearing has arrived as part of a package for the shoot. The shoes are press samples and don't quite fit and the pants, which are also press samples, have been pinned at the back because they're too ➜



2PM
The glamour of F1 is squeezing into a rented helicopter with four television people – for the third time!



1PM
Time for a jog (and it's not staged, honest).

➜ large around the waist. In fact, the Mercedes 280SL is the only thing remotely authentic about this morning.

"I bought it off a lady in the UK about 10 years ago," he smiles, popping the hood to show off the immaculately rebuilt engine inside.

"I took it back to Mercedes to get the engine sorted out and they did such an amazing job on it I couldn't continue with the rest of the car looking as it did, so they then did the whole thing. The thing is I don't drive it that much. It had around 50,000 miles on the clock when I bought it and it's only up to 60,000 or something now. But I like it a lot. Most of the time I drive my other car, though."

A Ferrari? Some kind of super-exotic Zonda or Koenigsegg?

"A Smart. It's perfect for round here."

And that about sums up the Coulthard approach to life away from Formula One. It's regular, comfortable as old slippers and, aside from the Côte d'Azur location, actually fairly non-glamorous.

"An average day here?" he muses. "I guess in the morning I'll probably take the (push) bike out and go up the mountains if I want to stretch myself a bit or do a recovery ride to Italy. It kind of fills a dual function of giving me a workout and also pleasure. It's relaxation time and best of all it just gives me time to think.

'I LOOKED AT THE PLACE FELIPE MASSA HAS GONE FOR. IT'S HUGE! I JUST THOUGHT: WHY WOULD I NEED THAT?'

"I'll get back, and by 11.30am I'm showered. Then I have time to take care of any team issues that need working out, get in touch with the engineers if it's necessary. Look after whatever needs to be done.

"Then it's lunch. I'll probably pop down to a restaurant called La Salière, which is downstairs from where I live. I'll take half an hour to get something to eat there…"

Food as fuel rather than pleasure?

"Not really," he says. "I like the social aspect of eating. It's nice to eat with some friends but it's social rather than epicurean. I don't see the point of making a three-hour drama out of it. I think I'm impatient by nature and I want to eat, enjoy the company, then move on to something else."

That usually means going back to his apartment office and working on the interests he pursues away from the track: the hotels, plus the company he is involved in that makes bicycle helmets for kids – a venture he started as a way of protecting the children of his close family.

"That's about it," he says. "If I have an afternoon off I might take a boat and go up the coast with friends. To somewhere like Villefranche or Saint-Tropez. But only close friends. Jesus, I couldn't think of anything worse than being stuck with people I didn't know; I'd take a boat out to get away from them!"

For Coulthard, Monaco represents the perfect place to get on with his life, rather than a gilt-edged celebrity haunt. "As far as I'm concerned, luxury isn't about Bentleys and gold jewellery and yachts, it's about convenience, and being here offers that. Really, I'm a creature of habit. I like being able to go downstairs to eat a quick lunch and not have any fuss. I rarely go to other restaurants. I have an account at La Salière so I can eat and leave and they know it's all fine. In the evenings I might go to Sass Café, which is a piano bar/restaurant. It's fun, the music's good, and I know it well."



12PM
"Welcome to my bar." No wonder DC's smiling, the drinks are always free for him.

The convenience extends to the mundane too. "I, err, don't really go to supermarkets," he says. "I have a lady who looks after my apartment who does that. Like I said I'm a creature of habit so the stuff tends to be the same from week to week. It would take me 10 minutes to do it but it's just easier if she does it.

"The bottom line is I like Monaco. I loved growing up in the countryside in Scotland, love walking around in wellies all the time. You'd go to church in your wellies. And I like London, too. I like the buzz and the convenience of a big city. But with Monaco I can shut the apartment door, come back two weeks later and everything is as it should be. It's safe, there's hardly any crime. There's no paparazzi. If I was leaving a club with someone I wouldn't be photographed. It just doesn't have that culture."

It is, he admits a cliché of the racing driver lifestyle but one he bought into early. "My father said to me, 'When you get into F1 you move to Monaco.' There was nothing else to think about. I moved here on the back of the first cheque I got from Williams and I've not regretted it once."

Coulthard still lives in the same apartment that first Williams cheque secured him. "I like it," he shrugs. "I looked at the place Felipe Massa has gone for. It's huge! I just thought; why would I need that? I like the place I have, I like the view. I don't need more."

The F1 world, though, expects more. The German television crew turns up to stage a lunch on the terrace of Columbus. Then they whisk him down to the marina to mock-up a training session, everybody changing into running gear for a brisk jog along the jetty.

Next, they cram into a helicopter for that true high-end ride around Monaco harbour, then they hustle him down to a waiting boat for the superstar-at-sea routine. The idea of a racing driver choosing to live in Monaco may be a cliché but this is pandering to it in the worst way.

On the other hand, in half an hour Coulthard's fiancée Karen is arriving and they're going for dinner. So sure, it's Monaco and it's model-beautiful girlfriends and dinner with glamorous people a world away from your and my regular, but it's also ordinary nonetheless. Just friends going out on a day off from work. No helicopters, no yachts.

And hey, if you could get someone to go to the supermarket for you, you would, right?

THEN AND NOW

Twenty-five years apart but there's a Williams on the grid and a Rosberg at the wheel. In 1982 Keke prepared to race in the US Grand Prix West at Long Beach where he finished second. The result summed up his world championship season, where he claimed the title thanks to consistency as much as nerve. Now it's Nico who proudly flies the Rosberg flag for Williams as he did when he returned to the scene of his impressive debut in Bahrain.

PHOTOGRAPHY: RAINER SCHLEGELMILCH

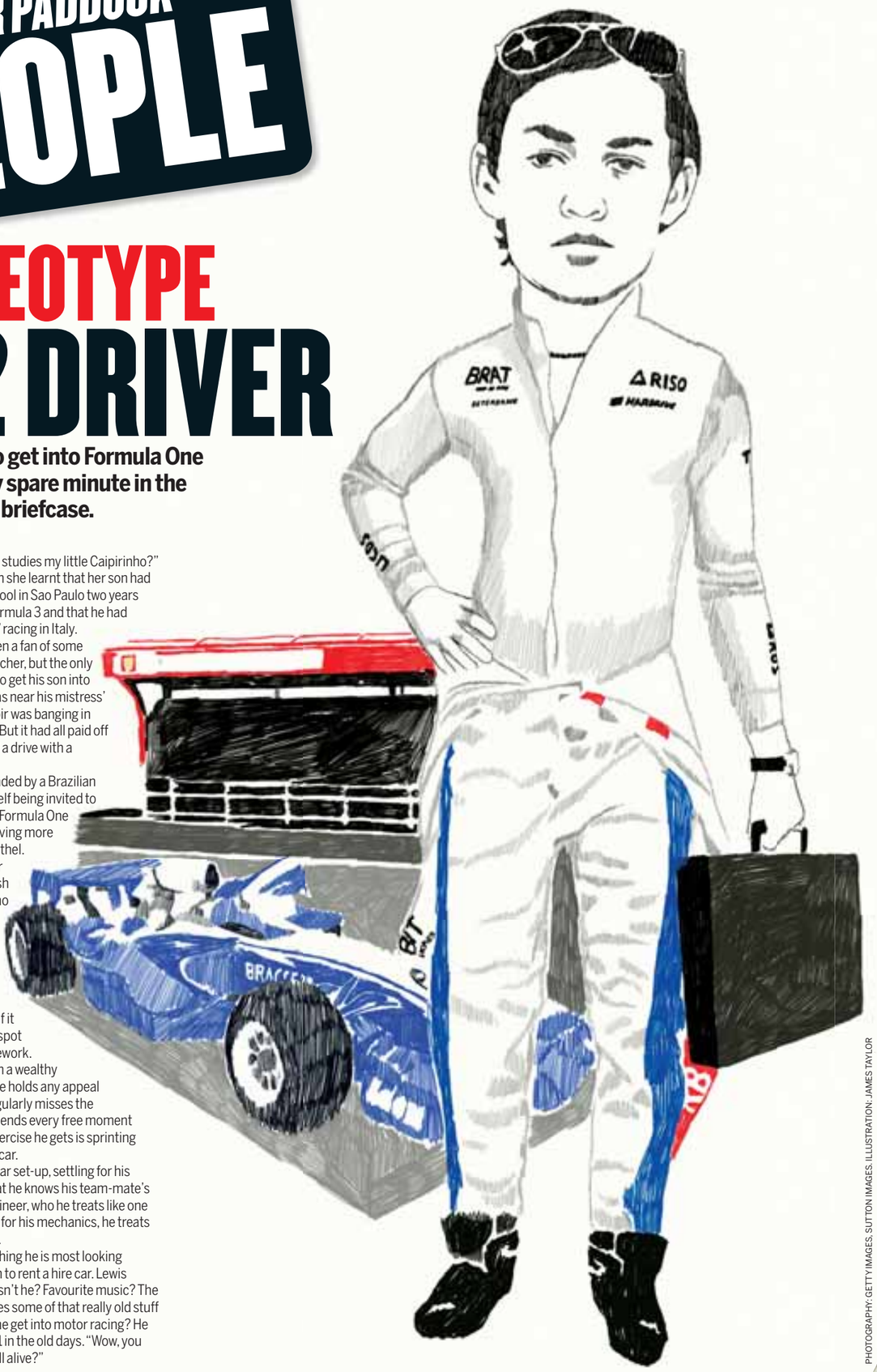




24-HOUR PADDOCK PEOPLE

STEREOTYPE GP2 DRIVER

He's desperate to get into Formula One and spends every spare minute in the paddock – with a briefcase.



"But what about your studies my little Caipirinho?" wailed Mama, when she learnt that her son had dropped out of school in Sao Paulo two years earlier to race in Formula 3 and that he had spent his 'gap year' racing in Italy.

Caipir Danzig's father had been a fan of some driver called Michael Schumacher, but the only reason he had paid a fortune to get his son into karting was that the circuit was near his mistress' apartment, so while little Caipir was banging in the laps, he was just banging. But it had all paid off and the youngster has landed a drive with a short-of-money GP2 outfit.

With rumours that he is funded by a Brazilian bank, Danzig soon finds himself being invited to motorhome lunches with the Formula One grandees and he is soon receiving more attention than a virgin in a brothel.

But Danzig has fallen under the spell of a crafty old Swedish driver manager, Sven Galli, who never lets his young charger out of his sight, except when the inevitable group of marketing girls queue up outside his hotel room. It was Sven who taught him to carry a briefcase everywhere, even if it only contains some Clearasil spot remover and his college homework.

Naturally talented and from a wealthy background, only Formula One holds any appeal for Caipir, which means he regularly misses the start of GP2 practice, as he spends every free moment in the F1 paddock. The only exercise he gets is sprinting to the pitlane to jump into his car.

Caipir takes no interest in car set-up, settling for his team-mate's settings. Not that he knows his team-mate's name, nor that of his race engineer, who he treats like one of his servants back home. As for his mechanics, he treats them like his *foreign* servants.

Caipir's views on life? The thing he is most looking forward to is being old enough to rent a hire car. Lewis Hamilton? He's a bit old now isn't he? Favourite music? The Pussycat Dolls, but he also likes some of that really old stuff like Arctic Monkeys. How did he get into motor racing? He saw a TV programme about F1 in the old days. "Wow, you mean that Hakkinen guy is still alive?"

ANTHONY DAVIDSON F1 DRIVER

LOVE

1 THE MALDIVES.
Quite literally heaven on earth. If beach holidays are your thing, and you've never been, then go.

2 SPACE
As in the final frontier. It's always good to remember just how meaningless and pathetically small we really are. Yes, even you!

3 TECHNOLOGY
I love watching things evolve and move forward, I'm not a believer in looking back, and without advances in technology the world would be a boring place to live!

4 PUSHING TO THE LIMIT
Like most drivers I do a lot of training and physical activity, but I always prefer to train alone. I love pushing myself to the limit – both physically and mentally – as there is no better feeling than beating your personal best performances.

5 FAMILY
I'm lucky to have a great family – they're the people I care about most in this world.

HATE

1 QUEUE-JUMPERS
Yeah you. The one who's just pushed in front of everyone who's been waiting patiently... British-style. If you're running late it's your own fault – get to the back.

2 TRAFFIC WARDENS
I can't see the attraction of a job where the objective is to upset people and spoil their day by reducing their bank balance. I'm sure one day robots will do this job.

3 MOSQUITOES
What a pointless insect. Apparently it is only the pregnant females that bite you – make of that what you will. There is nothing more annoying than hearing that high-pitched buzz close to your ear just as you are dropping off to sleep...

4 THE SMELL OF SMOKE
As a non-smoker I'm particularly sensitive to the smell of smoke. I don't mind seeing people smoke, as it is up to them, but I hate being trapped in a room where I have no choice what I'm breathing. A bit like being trapped in a lift when someone's just let one go.

5 SQUATTING TOILETS
You can complain about Silverstone as much as you want, but at least you know you'll never find yourself hovering over a hole in the ground claiming to be a toilet.



PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTY IMAGES, SUTTON IMAGES. ILLUSTRATION: JAMES TAYLOR



BEDTIME BOOKS

BERNIE ECCLESTONE

So just what keeps the FOM boss awake at night?

"Roads? Where we're going, we don't need... roads," claims Dr Emmett Brown. "Oh yes we do," replies Mr Bernard Charles Ecclestone, because Bernie's going Back to the Future with a new series of street circuits that promises to have F1's geometry engineers going over their ride height specifications and adding a couple of centimetres.

We're not sure that 'Bedtime books' is strictly appropriate for Bernie because everyone knows Mr E doesn't sleep, although he occasionally closes his eyes to listen to his money talking to him. But that doesn't mean Bernie doesn't have time for a good book, in fact he usually tries to sneak in a few chapters while one of the team principals complains about how life isn't fair.

Jack Kerouac's On The Road has been particularly popular in Princes Gate recently, and Bernie's also been listening to The Streets. Mike Skinner might show up this weekend and Bernie likes to stay down with the kids. He enjoys The Hardest Way To Make A Living and A Grand Doesn't Come For Free but wasn't so sure about Original Pirate Material.

The Singapore A to Z is looking totally battered and the Valencia Berlitz Pocket Guide has been dusted off for the first time in years. Just to maintain a sense of continuity, Bernie has also re-read George Orwell's Homage to Catalonia. The Arabian Nights: A Selection by Sir Richard Burton (no, the other one) has also done some brisk trade as Bernie and his staff have been spending quite a lot of nights in the Gulf. The copy of Cecil Rhodes by Princess Catherine Radziwill doesn't mean a grand prix in Zimbabwe is inevitable so much as Bernie should invest in a less crackly intercom. Money by Martin Amis also looks to have been well thumbed.

DEAR DAPHNE

Help, I think my stalker wants to take over my life

Dear Daphne, You've got to help me. I'm frightened, very frightened. I've got enough to deal with, what with a number of car problems and saving the planet, but now I've got a real fight on my hands. In short, I'm being stalked by some mad Irishman. I can tell he's mad because he starts sentences but never finishes them – at least not with the same sentence. Also he looks strange – he has a funny haircut, and a little beard that makes him look like the devil. Now he's telling people he can do a better job than me. I'm scared. Deeply scared. *Yours, Nick, Brackley*

DAPHNE SAYS: Calm down, calm down. I know the Irishman in question very well and seriously he is no threat to you. In fact, you could do worse than to humour him a little. Indeed, he could help you with your plans to make the planet a greener place. After all, it's well known that he can talk manure better than anyone. That should help you with your reforestation efforts.

GRIDDLE

You know how this works. How many of these do you know? The answers will be on page 23 of Sunday morning's Bulletin.



1 What's special about this occasion?

2 Who is this?

3 Who is this driver's partner?

4 Name the two drivers and the year?

THE RED BULLETIN

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CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: 30G white iPod. New, unused, boxed MP3 player. It's your for just 170 euros. Get in touch via secret. service@theredbulletin.com

FOR SALE: original Francis Bacon lithography triptych signed by the artist. 119x179. Sold at auction in 2004 for 25,500 euros, selling for 30,000 euros. Painting is currently located in London. E-mail secret. service@theredbulletin.com to request a viewing.

WANTED: Better toilet facilities. The glamour of Monaco? Not when you're using The Bulletin's lavatory, it isn't. Any suggestions? Contact us via the usual e-mail address...

SEARCHING FOR: Yacht adventure on Monday. We'll supply the drink and the tunes, you'll need to provide the boat. Please get in contact via secret. service@theredbulletin.com before Friday night.

CONGRATULATIONS: Happy birthday to Nick Howe from Super Aguri. How old? He wouldn't give us his real age, but his race age is 28... this evening's beers are on him. Also celebrating this weekend are Michael Hare from Super Aguri, Bradley Lord from Renault and Jenny Cullis from LAT

FOR SALE: 1. Scott Genius MC20 mountain bike (marathon spec). Two years old, excellent condition; maintained by enthusiast and with full recent service (new rings and chain). Carbon frame, full suspension. Fantastic cross-country bike. Cost £2,500 new; on offer at £1,150. 'Large' frame, so would suit rider over 5'9" tall. 2. Scott CR1 Pro road bike. Full Shimano Ultegra groupset. 'Large' frame, so would suit rider over 5'9". Covered less than 2,000 miles. £1,750. 3. Scott Genius MC30 mountain bike. Aluminium frame, full suspension. Maintained by enthusiast. Great for cross-country blasting. £600. 'Large' frame, so would suit rider 5'9" or over. Contact me via: secret. service@theredbulletin.com

SPACE FOR FREE: Need to sell stuff? Looking for a new job? Then use The Red Bulletin's classifieds section. It's free, goes to the whole Paddock (those allowed to read it) and gets results. Guaranteed – or your money back. E-mail secret. service@theredbulletin.com

PHOTOGRAPHY: SUTTON IMAGES

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR...

LEWIS HAMILTON

Fortune-teller Gayle Force sought the help of her American Indian spirit guide, Running Water, for Lewis Hamilton's prediction. What does his face say about his future?



Gayle Force was born in the 1950s in Cornwall, England. She says: "The gifts of healing, clairvoyance and mediumship are as natural to me as breathing." Gayle travels the world sharing her gifts with those she encounters. She can be contacted for private readings on +44 1726 70786.

Love & Light...

Gayle

OVERALL

His features show that he's a strong decision-maker and has great intelligence. He is a team player rather than a leader and he will give all he has got when he's happy. Annoy him, though, and you wound his soul. The face is open – what you see is what you get. There are no hidden depths, just a hard-working and fun-loving character.

THE RACE

In this race care must be taken around a bend near a place full of shadows, or a tunnel. I don't foresee an accident, just a need for care. The number 58 keeps coming up and this is associated with the driver of the car – it could be the age of the car's owner or the number of times it has lapped the track. I also get the number 20 in connection with the driver. A lucky number.



LEWIS'S EYES

He loves to party and enjoys celebrations. There is a lot of joy in his eyes, but I also see apprehension. A feeling of, "What can I achieve?"

LEWIS'S EYEBROWS

The eyebrows suggests a man who likes to get his own way, and can show a negative side if he cannot get things right. However, he will achieve and surprise himself and others as he does so.

LEWIS'S EARS

The area of the ears is giving me a sign that he is heading for a period of instability. He's settled in his mind, but is it a reality?

LEWIS'S CHEEKBONES

This is a very lucky young man, and once he is on the up his confidence will expand. However, there is a feeling from his cheekbone area that there is some uncertainty still – he likes harmony in all things and at the moment that is hard to balance. There is a focus on the number six in the next race. I get six, loud and clear.

LEWIS'S MOUTH AND CHIN

In the mouth and chin area of his face I can see that things will be changing for him around July, when I see great happiness coming into his life. The mouth shows that he's a generous person, always happy to share with friends and family – a man who if you were in need would try to help you out.

PHOTOGRAPHY: REUTERS

DON'T PANIC! #5 MONACO

So, here you are. Monte Carlo. A land that bears little resemblance to the real world of F1, and even less to the real, real world beyond that. It can do bad stuff to your brain but by following our survival guide, you at least have a chance of staying in touch with reality.

A CARAVAN

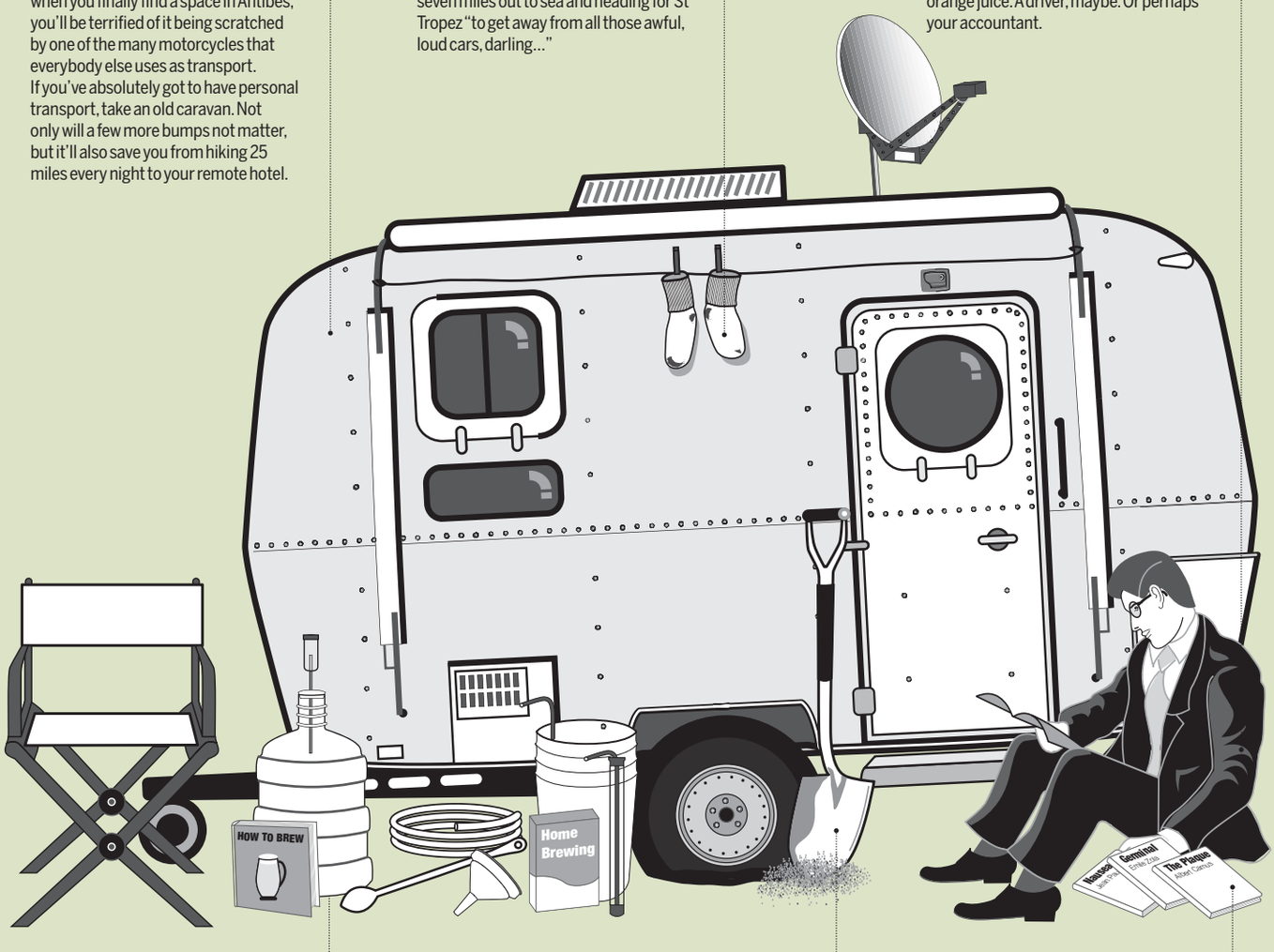
One for the European journalists. While you're a seasoned sports reporter, once a year you'll remember you also write about road cars, call a friendly press office, and head for Monaco in something more expensive than your house. Don't. What's the point of driving a supercar in a place that's already home to most of the world's supercars? Half the people won't notice it and the other half will assume you're a moderately successful hairdresser. You won't be able to park anywhere and when you finally find a space in Antibes, you'll be terrified of it being scratched by one of the many motorcycles that everybody else uses as transport. If you've absolutely got to have personal transport, take an old caravan. Not only will a few more bumps not matter, but it'll also save you from hiking 25 miles every night to your remote hotel.

OLD SOCKS

If you're the sort of person who keeps their socks until they look like a fishing net, then Monaco is the place to set them free. You'll get drunk, you'll get invited onto a boat, you'll reach the gangplank and then suddenly the idea that you'll have to take your shoes off will have the kind of sobering effect you usually only get from a letter from the tax office. You'll go back to your hotel and go to sleep. This may well make you unhappy, but it's better to wake up unfulfilled and resentful, than seven miles out to sea and heading for St Tropez "to get away from all those awful, loud cars, darling…"

SOMEBODY SOBER

Monaco has ways of taking all of your money, even if you don't go to the casino. The place can deceive you into thinking you're the king of the world – invincible and indestructible. You'll make friends, talk of doing great things. Then, suddenly, it's 4am, you're in Jimmy'z and having bought six Heinekens and a bottle of red wine, you're staring at a bar bill for €3000 and all of your new friends are suddenly nowhere to be seen. It's probably better to stay with someone who prefers orange juice. A driver, maybe. Or perhaps your accountant.



HOME BREW

Eight euros for a beer? Six hundred for a bottle of vodka? Madness. Go back to your student days and invest in a home-brew kit for your caravan. Sipping several litres of Gargoyles' Festeringbrau will leave you more numb than the credit card bill from La Rascasse.

A SHOVEL

F1 is powered by bullshit, but in Monaco there is so much of the stuff you'll probably need to clear a path to get through it. Failing that, it's always useful for hitting ignorant paddock guests over the head, before pushing them into the harbour.

SOMETHING SERIOUS TO READ

This place isn't normal, and yet after a couple of days it might start to appear as if the world is filled with people who own yachts, have champagne with their cornflakes and use a copy of Who's Who as an address book. Don't be fooled. Maintain a sense of proportion by reading something from the real world. Try the UN's latest account of poverty in developing countries or, if you prefer fiction, try something by Emile Zola or Victor Hugo rather than Jackie Collins…

ILLUSTRATION: INFOMEN