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THE RED BULLETIN

AN ALMOST INDEPENDENT F1 NEWSPAPER



SUZUKA
F1'S HOUSE OF THE RISING SUN

PRINTED HERE AT THE RACE TRACK

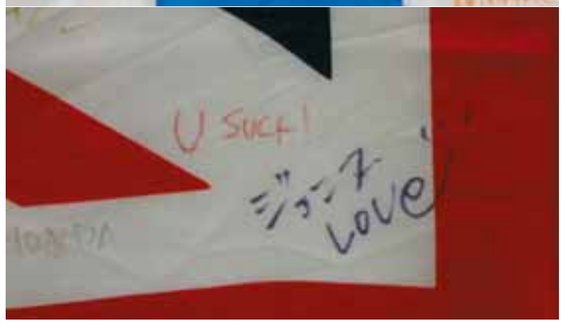
Formula 1

PACESETTER

WE KNOW that Japanese race fans are a little obsessive but here in Suzuka they'll get their messages of devotion across anytime, anywhere. These terms of endearment we found in an out of the way shopping centre in Shiroko – a bunch of flags, all with messages of goodwill, or otherwise. The congratulations to Fernando Alonso we can understand, we can even cope with the expression of undying love for Kimi, but we can't help but wonder if the 'U suck' message on the Union Jack is directed at a particular British driver who might recently have closed the door on a particular Japanese driver's chances of retaining a particular drive...









McLAREN

ADRIAN NEWEY is going to have his mind firmly focussed on racing this weekend of two different types. As well as the crucial confrontation between McLaren and Renault for the constructors' championship, McLaren's mercurial technical director is competing in the final round of the Ginetta series at Silverstone on Saturday and Sunday. A regular competitor in the historic car circuit, Newey will be sponsored by PlayStation in the biggest single class one-make series in Europe. Newey said: "I've done a fair bit of historic car racing this season but this will be my first race in a modern sports racing car, so I am really looking forward to it. Over the years I have spent hours working with our drivers and looking at the data from Silverstone, this will be a bit of role reversal." Given the time difference between Japan and England he can get his F1 duties out of the way at Suzuka before he steps into the cockpit himself.

TOYOTA

IT IS AN HONOUR and privilege enjoyed by only the greatest sportsmen and women such as Muhammed Ali, Cathy Freeman and rowing legend Sir Steve Redgrave. Jarno Trulli will join that elite list early next year when he will carry the Olympic flame through Pescara in Italy. The hallowed torch will stop off for a night in his home town on its journey from Olympia in Greece to Turin where the Winter Olympics are taking place. The Toyota ace has been chosen to carry the torch by local big-wigs because of his F1 exploits. Just don't burn yourself.



RENAULT

ALMOST A FORTNIGHT AFTER their historic triumph in Sao Paulo, Renault's mechanics are still high on the events of that remarkable day. But we are not sure whether it is delight or anger. It may be a vicious rumour put about by their rivals, but the word is that the mechanics had to pay for their drinks at the impromptu celebrations afterwards and having partied as hard as they have worked all season some were hundreds of euros out of pocket. Surely that can't be true? But then Flavio Briatore did speed off to the airport straight after the race so maybe he was saving the cost of an extra night at the hotel. It's tough when, like Renault, your profits are down to a measly 2.4 billion euros.





PACESETTER

LIFE'S A BEACH... Once Turkey got in on the F1 act, then Greece was sure to follow sooner or later. Greek government officials have confirmed they are looking into the cost and logistics of joining the grand prix calendar. Wouldn't it be great if they opted for Corfu or Rhodes so weary mechanics and engineers could squeeze in a decent family holiday? Chances are though the track will be built on the former airport and Olympic site south of Athens. Just like Suzuka, initial plans include an amusement and water park. And like Istanbul the Athens event will come with the usual challenging journey through packed city streets to the track every day. Excellent.

PHOTOS: C COATES/LAT PHOTOGRAPHIC, GETTY IMAGES

The Red Bulletin
The bulls in the china shop

Publisher Norman Howell
Editor Justin Hynes
Production editor Matt Youson
Chief sub-editor David Granger
Staff writer Adam Hay-Nicholls
Art director Markus Rasp
Senior designer Christine Bader
Designer Patrick Dunne

Photo editor Susie Forman
Team photographer Thomas Butler
Illustrator Dietmar Kainrath

Logistics manager Bettina Leidiger

Truckies Tony Gardner, Leigh Pothecary, Marc Sirett

IT Bernd Gorbach, Adam Carbajal, Werner Stadlober, Thomas Riedel

Printing team Oswald Halwax, Thomas Schmitz

Project coordinator Bernd Fisa

Concept Karl Abentheuer, Christian Kammerling, Boro Petric, Christian Seiler, Alex Wiederin

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e-mail: secret.service@theredbulletin.com

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WILLIAMS

EVERYONE KNOWS that Mark Webber is one of the fittest guys on the grid but the Aussie is determined to turn himself into an even leaner, meaner fighting machine. Our Mark will be working out at the Centre for Human Science during the winter having been impressed by a recent trip to the facility which is now run by former British Ministry of Defence company QinetiQ. The centre includes two hot chambers – ideal for preparing for the extreme temperatures drivers face in Bahrain or Malaysia – where the company's scientists prepare soldiers for life in the Gulf. Webber said: "I think it could help me improve. They have had some of the most amazing soldiers in the world here and find out things that they are not doing right. I am sure they can do the same for a driver. We know there are some particularly tough races on the calendar and if you are in a more comfortable environment then you are going to be performing better."



FOUR COMMENTARIES

LOOS IN TRANSLATION

BY MAURICE HAMILTON

1 WET ARSE SYNDROME

Admit it. You've suffered from Wet Arse Syndrome (WAS), like every other visitor to Japan. I'm talking about the bathrooms in the cheap hotels we're stuffed into by the organisers. (If you're in with the posh people in western-style accommodation, then don't read any further because this might be a bit distressing as you learn how the rest of your world lives. But if you're a WAS sufferer and too embarrassed to talk about it, read on and draw comfort from the fact that you are not alone.)

The first hotel selected for the media in 1987 presented a major problem before you even entered the bedroom: what to do with your suitcase. If it was solid and hinged, you simply couldn't open it within the confines of your 'room'. If you did, then you had to get undressed in the corridor.

For journalists who came back tired and emotional (ie pissed) each night, this was not a problem since they usually fell into bed fully dressed. Mind you, getting up was a problem because they were in danger of stubbing a toe against the suitcase they forgot was filling the available floor space. And as for getting caught short in night without time to find the light switch...

Which brings me to WAS. There is an unavoidable feeling the people who design Japanese bathrooms possess a warped sense of humour. I refer to these self-contained 'all needs catered for' units moulded from one piece of plastic. The sort that is so cramped inside that the door opens outwards and you have to decide the purpose of your visit beforehand so you either enter normally or engage reverse and back in. Carefully.

That's the trouble. The additional trap inside for the unwary is the all-purpose loo which doubles as a bidet and perhaps other functions which I haven't thought of and wouldn't want to go into here. The control panel is alongside the loo with each operation indicated by a little diagram which tells you which direction the water will be coming from or, more importantly going to.

So, you stagger in at some unearthly hour in darkness and decide to sit down. Unfortunately, a bit unsteady on your feet, you crash land and, in trying to steady yourself, accidentally put your right hand on the control panel, thereby setting off flashing lights, whirring noises and a severe blast of WAS when you least expect it. Brings new meaning to the expression 'receiving a wake up call', I can tell you.

F1 FUNNIES



BY DAN KNUTSON

2 WINTER WARMERS

In its Brazil Sunday edition, The Bulletin suggested the ideal 12-race calendar in exotic locales ranging from Jamaica to the Maldives. Just in case Bernie and Max don't adopt that utopian schedule, here's a suggestion: let's expand the calendar and have some fun in the sun. In the 1970s, the season started in February in places like Argentina and Brazil, followed by a race or two at venues like South Africa and Long Beach in March/April. After some time off, the season would resume in Europe in May. It was all very civilised.

It's time to revert to a variation of the old calendar. It would all work out because what do the F1 teams like to do more than anything? Go testing! Why, if they didn't have some self-imposed restrictions they would test every day – like those red cars do. The teams certainly like to test all through the European winter.

So, stage tests in the summer in the Southern Hemisphere and throw in a couple of races. The teams' new cars would not be ready, but they could race interim cars. You could even have a few rules prohibiting the use of an all-new car.

Impractical? Maybe, but why not? F1 thrives on impracticability. Expensive? We all have to spend the money to go to the flyaways anyway, be they in January or October. And the teams would get into the spirit of it all by agreeing to not fly out new parts daily to the tests/races in the sun. We could even have some parc ferme rules so mechanics would get time off, too.

It's rumoured that Brazil will be run in November next year as the last race. But let's move it back to the beginning of the season. Sao Paulo may not be an idyllic holiday venue but it sure beats Silverstone in January. Besides, in the perfect world, the Brazilian GP returns to Rio de Janeiro.

I have great memories of hanging around the pool at the Intercontinental Hotel where all the teams stayed in Rio. The drivers would hang out there, too, and we scruffy journalists pretty much left them unmolested. If we go back to Rio, or any other fun in the sun races, I propose that the media promise to not act too much like unrelenting paparazzi.

It's time to return to the good old days. Let's go back to Rio, or some other sunny place, next January rather than November. And, while we are at it, let's close out the season in Adelaide.

ILLUSTRATIONS: TILL METTE, KAINRATH



3 JAPAN'S BIG TWO GO HEAD TO HEAD...

PIT BITCH BY HELEN PARADYCE

4 EAT TO THE BEAT

Reading this early Friday morning? A working member of the media? Yes? Then you are only a few hours away from one of the highlights of the season, the Japanese lunch box. No, that's not something a Sumo wrestler keeps down his diaper. Head off to the photographers area and there it is, a meal made mathematics, with the box divided into sections, just like a real prison dinner, each containing its own gastro-nightmare.

Split the chopsticks and prepare to do battle with a Japdonald Happy Meal. The fare is quite basic and not at all as exotic as the chocolate cheese or trout stuffed with pig intestines I was served with here earlier this week, or the cold carrots which come with your eggs at breakfast time. Japan virgins might be wondering how you are supposed to tackle the huge glop of rice with just a pair of chopsticks, but worry not, because it comes up in one huge lump, rather like a rice lolly. As a concession to us Europeans, these bento boxes always contain a couple of items we are well used to, most commonly, two cold chips sitting atop a confection of fruit jelly. Mmmmm!

The Japanese lunch box. No, that's not something a Sumo wrestler keeps down his diaper

But the most dangerous element is a small red sphere which looks invitingly like a cherry, until one bites it and finds it is actually a sort of pickle. It is the most astringent food known to man and you can always tell who has just eaten one as their cheeks are sucked in to such an extent they look like Edvard Munch's The Scream. There is one very strange feature about these box meals, namely the cardboard box itself actually tastes nicer than its contents.

I'm a bit weary and off the pace at the moment, partly due to jet lag, but mainly due to an overdose of pornography. I'm a well travelled, pretty unshockable sort of girl, but as I opened my room window to cope with the long, hot night, all I could hear was "eek, eek, eek, eek!" I thought it was some Japanese cricket chirruping, but it turned out to be the cries of delight of the young lady indulging in a physical relationship on the porno channel everyone in my hotel was tuned into. The entire establishment has been given over to journalists and photographers, so it's no surprise. The scary thing about Jap porn is it all seems to involve schoolgirls being kidnapped and beaten with water hoses. Where I come from, a hose is something you water the lawn with and wash the car with on Sundays. But in Japan, it seems you buy it by the metre in a sex shop not the garden centre.

Occasionally, Japan conspires to combine girls shrieking and strange food all in the one story, as when a team PR was about to tuck into her fish dish with her chopsticks, but the fish in question, still very much alive, decided to up sticks instead and roll off the plate. Forget "eek, eek," this was a real scream. So you have been warned. Watch what you eat and keep it simple, because this is a strange land. Ring up and ask for a piano tuna and you might just get one!

CULTURE VULTURE

Japan is currently producing some of the most influential, ground-breaking and original artists. Here is our guide to the latest innovators who are making it...

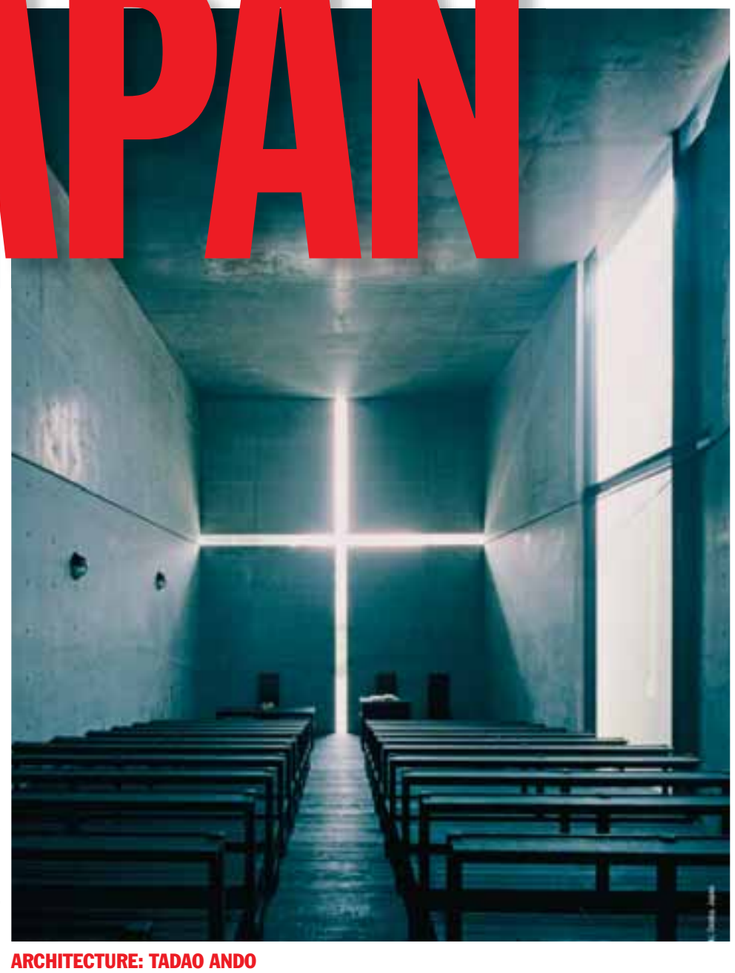
COOL JAPAN





LITERATURE: HARUKI MURAKAMI

Cool Japan wouldn't be complete without Japan's literary Beatle, Murakami, a man so famous he was forced to abandon his home country after obsessional fans made his life a misery – they even started wearing clothes the colour of his book covers to demonstrate their dedication. Murakami ran the Peter Cat jazz club before deciding to become a writer on a whim while watching a baseball game. He gained notoriety with his debut novel Norwegian Wood, a free-form love story which dealt with sex and morality. His books are often a mix of hard-boiled detective style narrative, acid-tinged fantasy and beat-influenced meandering. They are intriguing, often difficult to fathom but always irresistibly readable and he has a heart-achingly beautiful ability to sum up the emotional struggles his characters battle with.



ARCHITECTURE: TADAO ANDO

Japan's pre-eminent architect, Ando had no formal training, but in the 1960s embarked on trips through Europe and America to study the work of renowned designers Le Corbusier, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Alvar Aalto, Frank Lloyd Wright, and Louis Kahn. On his return to Japan, aged 28, he set up Tadao Ando Architect and Associates. His design sensibility is pared back, organic and obsessed with light and space, Ando most notably uses concrete to define space, often with breathtaking results such as the Rokko Housing in his native Osaka, the stunning Church of Light (above), the Nariwa Museum (top) the Church on the Water, the striking Buddhist Water Temple and the Giorgio Armani Theatre in Milan. Ando was awarded architecture's most prestigious award, the Pritzker Prize in 1995. It's worth the trip to Osaka just to see his outstanding work.



PHOTO: MARION ETTLINGER, NOBUYOSHI ARAKI: FROM A WOMAN NAMED KOMARI (COURTESY THE ARTIST), SHINKENCHIKU-SHA: NARIWA MUSEUM, KAWAKAMI, JAPAN, MITSUO MATSUOKA: CHURCH OF THE LIGHT, IBARAKI, OSAKA, JAPAN

PHOTOGRAPHY: ARAKI

Nobuyoshi Araki is arguably Japan's greatest living photographer – but certainly its most controversial. His work juxtaposes contemporary Japanese sub-culture with kimono-clad women, bondage, exotic flowers and plastic dinosaurs (Araki's alter-ego). Born in 1940, he choses himself, his life and death as central themes to his work. Much is autobiographical (his intimate honeymoon pictures were published in 1971 as Sentimental Journey) and combines photography with painting drawing and film. He is credited with establishing the I-photography genre which blurs the distinction between existence and the medium. "Photography is life!" he declared and for him taking pictures is as continuous as breathing.





ANIMATION: HAYAO MIYAZAKI

Born in 1941, Japan's master animator has recently been embraced by the West, through his luscious film Spirited Away in which a young girl must find her parents who were turned into pigs after stumbling into a surreal theme park peopled by all the major characters of Japanese myth. It outsold Titanic at the Japanese box office. He began work on his animation series, Conan, The Boy in the Future in 1978 before making his feature-length debut with the classic Lupin III: The Castle of Cagliostro. However, Miyazaki is now forced to lament the end of hand-drawn animation. "We can't do anything about it. Civilisation moves on," he said. "I have been fortunate to be able to do the same job for 40 years. That's rare in any era." You can see his work at the Miyazaki Museum in Tokyo.



MUSIC: THE 5,6,7,8's

It took 15 years for the bubblegum rockabilly trio of Akiko Omo Yoshiko 'Ronnie' and Sachiko Fujiyama to come to world attention via Quentin Tarantino, who featured the group in Kill Bill Vol I. The band careering through their impossible catchy song Woo-Hoo as Uma Thurman slashed her way through the Crazy 88s yakuza posse. The song ploughed its way into charts across the world, re-igniting the career of the trio, which had begun during the rockabilly and surf-punk boom in Japan in the late '80s. Woo-Hoo was memorably described as "the Macarena for White Stripes fans" but there is a little more to the band than that one tune – though the signature is the same across their own brash stompalongs that rejoice in titles like Jane In The Jungle, I Was A Teenage Cave Woman, Pinball Party and Bond Girl.

PHOTO: THE RONALD GRANT ARCHIVE, RETNA

WHICH CAR IS IT?

Fancy a brand new 5Gb Creative mp3 player? Just answer these five questions set by F1 artist **Giorgio Piola** and get your answers in to us. Couldn't be easier.

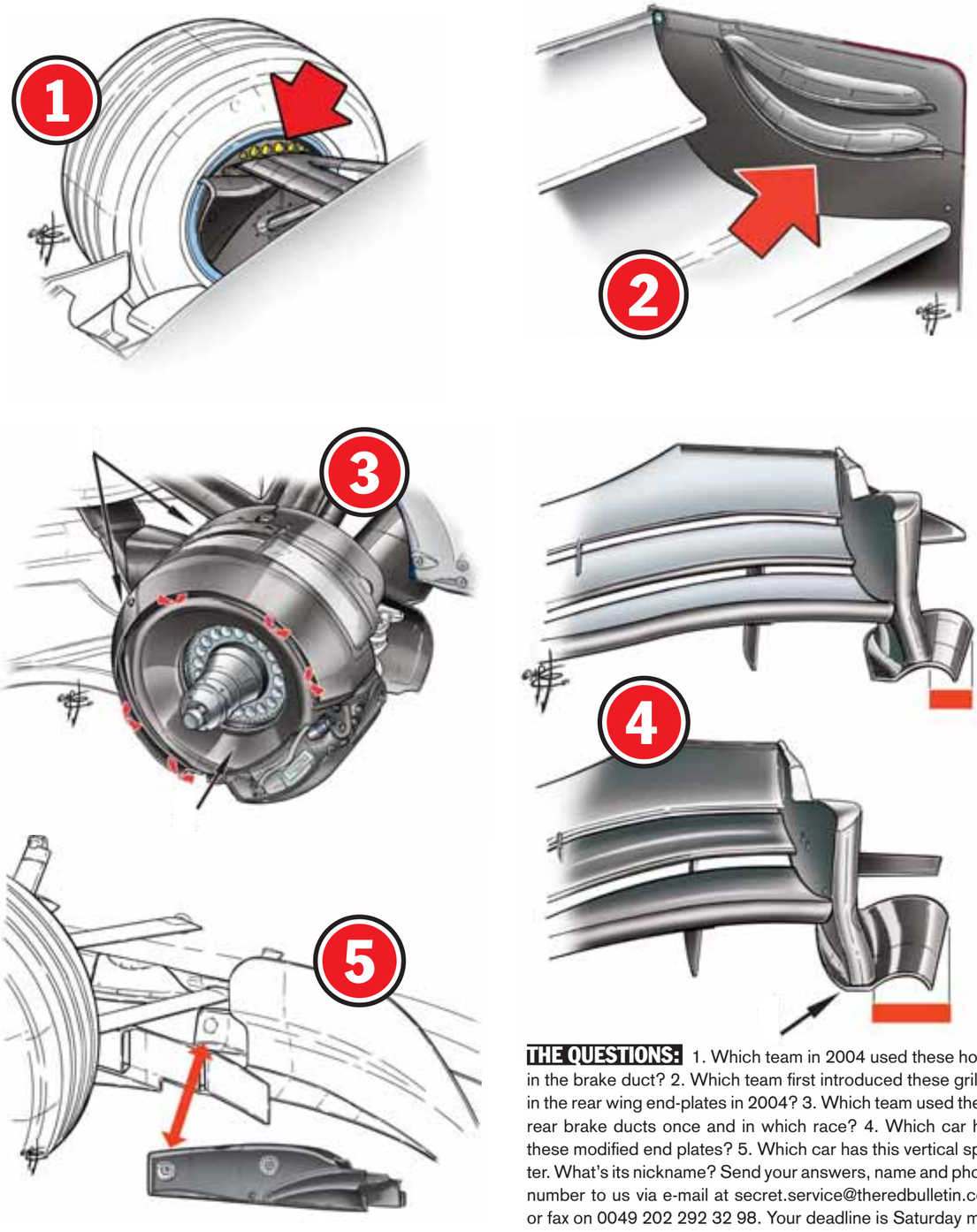


ILLUSTRATION: GIORGIO PIOLA

THE QUESTIONS: 1. Which team in 2004 used these holes in the brake duct? 2. Which team first introduced these grilles in the rear wing end-plates in 2004? 3. Which team used these rear brake ducts once and in which race? 4. Which car has these modified end plates? 5. Which car has this vertical splitter. What's its nickname? Send your answers, name and phone number to us via e-mail at secret.service@theredbulletin.com or fax on 0049 202 292 32 98. Your deadline is Saturday midnight. The answers and winner will be in Sunday's editions.

TOYS 4 US

With so little time to browse around the world's gadget capital, Electronics magazine editor **Jo Bennett** has this list of cool stuff to impress mates at home.

TELLY ON THE GO

GET TELLY wherever with Sony's LocationFree products. There's a 12-inch TV (¥170,000) with expanded wireless range and the Player Pak (¥39,700) which includes a base station and allows PC users to enjoy the benefits of LocationFree TV. The Base Station connects to devices such as a TV tuner, DVD player and personal video recorder. The 12-inch TV can access the base station so you can watch your favourite programmes or DVDs wirelessly in the home and over the internet while on the road.

GAME BOY MICRO

TIRED OF your Sony PSP? Try the Nintendo GameBoy Micro. It's thinner than a cell phone, as chic as an mp3 player and available in silver, green, blue and pink and costs ¥12,000. It only weighs 2.8 ounces but has the same processing power and plays the same games as the GameBoy Advance SP.

SANYO XACTI

SANYO IS launching the Xacti E6 this month. The three-inch screen is the largest in its class and you get 6.0 Megapixels quality, a 3X optical zoom, auto-focus system, a 'Scene Select' feature that makes beautiful shots easy for anyone, digital filters to create effects and a built-in memory, so no need for cards.

HITACHI HDD

HITACHI HAS unveiled a HDD/DVD recorder that can store one terabyte of data, or enough to record about 128 hours of high-definition digital broadcasting and record two programmes simultaneously. These may not make it to the European market, so snap one up while you're here.

65-INCH LCD TV

IF, LIKE MANY, you believe that big is beautiful when it comes to TV screen size then you're sure to be impressed with Sharp's latest offering the LC-65GE1 – a whopping 65-inch high-definition LCD TV. ¥1,680,000 plus a bribe to the guy with the appropriate team shipping manifest. If Plasma is more your thing, Panasonic is introducing a 65-inch high-definition plasma next month (you can register your interest now – price still to be confirmed).

TOSHIBA GIGASHOT

INTO MAKING movies? Toshiba's Gigashot V10 movie camera is the one for you. It integrates a 4Gb 0.85-inch HDD and only weighs 260g. Maximum recording time is about four hours, while up to 3,000 still pictures can be stored on it as well. Buttons for recording video and taking stills are separate, so you can do both without messing with menus. Available on order for ¥59,800.

PIMP WATCHES

THE CURRENT Japanese craze is for LED watches. Our personal favourite is the Pimp range of limited production beautifully finished, 70s-inspired retro. Prices range from ¥8,000 to ¥30,000.

PSP VALUE PACK

BORED OF your PSP? Why not invest in the PSP Value Pack (PSP, AC adaptor, battery pack, memory stick, headphones). It retails for ¥26,040 and is exactly the same as your old one, except it's white.

FORMULA UNA JAPAN

Ten ladies, one honour: Formula Una. A secret paddock jury will decide which of these Japanese ladies will be joining us in Shanghai.



NAME: **YOKO NISHIZAWA**
AGE: **26** STAR SIGN: **PISCES**
OCCUPATION: **INTERPRETER**
I love music, especially R&B. I also like singing and dancing and I watch movies almost every day at home. And I love hanging out with my friends – just drinking and chatting! Also I love travelling. I've been to Africa, the United States, Europe, the Pacific Islands and Asia.



NAME: **ASAMI SAITO** AGE: **22** STAR SIGN: **VIRGO** OCCUPATION: **MODEL**
I always look for the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and value every new encounter. As a fashion model I enjoy meeting models from all over the world, but I also value what is unique about Japanese culture. I love F1! I want to learn everything about grand prix racing from everyone at the race. In the future, I would love to become the first Japanese female team manager!



NAME: **HIROKO WATASE** AGE: **22**
STAR SIGN: **TAURUS** OCCUPATION: **MODEL**
I love my family and am especially close to my mother. I do sports such as rhythmic gymnastics, classical ballet and track and field. I like hip hop and R&B, but recently I began to like piano instrumentals and classical music. Jennifer Lopez is my hero, I like the way she expresses herself. I want to be able to do what I want freely as she does.

NAME: **YUKI AIZAWA**
AGE: **25**
STAR SIGN: **SCORPIO**
OCCUPATION: **MODEL**
I like to go to Thailand many times a year, because I find it so relaxing and it seems like time stops there. When I'm at a motor race, I really enjoy feeling the tension. I am full of curiosity and like having adventures. That's why the world of F1 is so interesting to me. I'm looking forward to talking with the F1 drivers – I want to try to speak honestly, like we're part of the same family.





NAME: **NAMI INABA**
AGE: **26** STAR SIGN: **TAURUS**
OCCUPATION: **TRANSLATOR AND CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSISTANT**
I'm a natural, positive person. My hobbies are snowboarding, body-boarding and dancing. My favourite cars are four-wheel-drives, and my favourite music is hip-hop and house. I guess I should support Takuma Sato because my mother loves him!



NAME: **MAI KATO** AGE: **29**
STAR SIGN: **ARIES** OCCUPATION: **FLIGHT ATTENDANT**
I'm the type of person who tries to take advantage of any opportunity I come across. Meeting new people, especially from different cultures, is something I love. I really appreciate this opportunity and cannot wait to see and experience the grand prix! I'm a Takuma Sato fan – he seems very genuine and passionate about all that he does, and I think that's worth respecting.



NAME: **REIKA KUWAHARA**
AGE: **24**
STAR SIGN: **SAGITTARIUS**
OCCUPATION: **STUDENT**
I like laughing very much. I always laugh anywhere, anytime. I like going to places I've never been to before and I go overseas every year. I enjoy natural places like lakes, mountains and silent places for relaxation. My fashion style varies – sometimes classic, sometimes casual. My style icon is the Japanese actress Nanako Matsushima.



NAME: **AKARI YAMAMOTO**
AGE: **23** STAR SIGN: **PISCES**
OCCUPATION: **ACTRESS AND REPORTER**
I'm so excited to be here as a Formula Una! Actually, I don't have my own car, though I absolutely love cars. Yes, of course very fast ones. And I've been to the Motegi and Suzuka circuits before. I also enjoy horse riding, painting, swimming, travelling around the world and lying on the beach. I just came back from Greece. I love the sun! I'd like to be like the sun at Suzuka, to cheer everybody up. Hang in there! I can't wait.

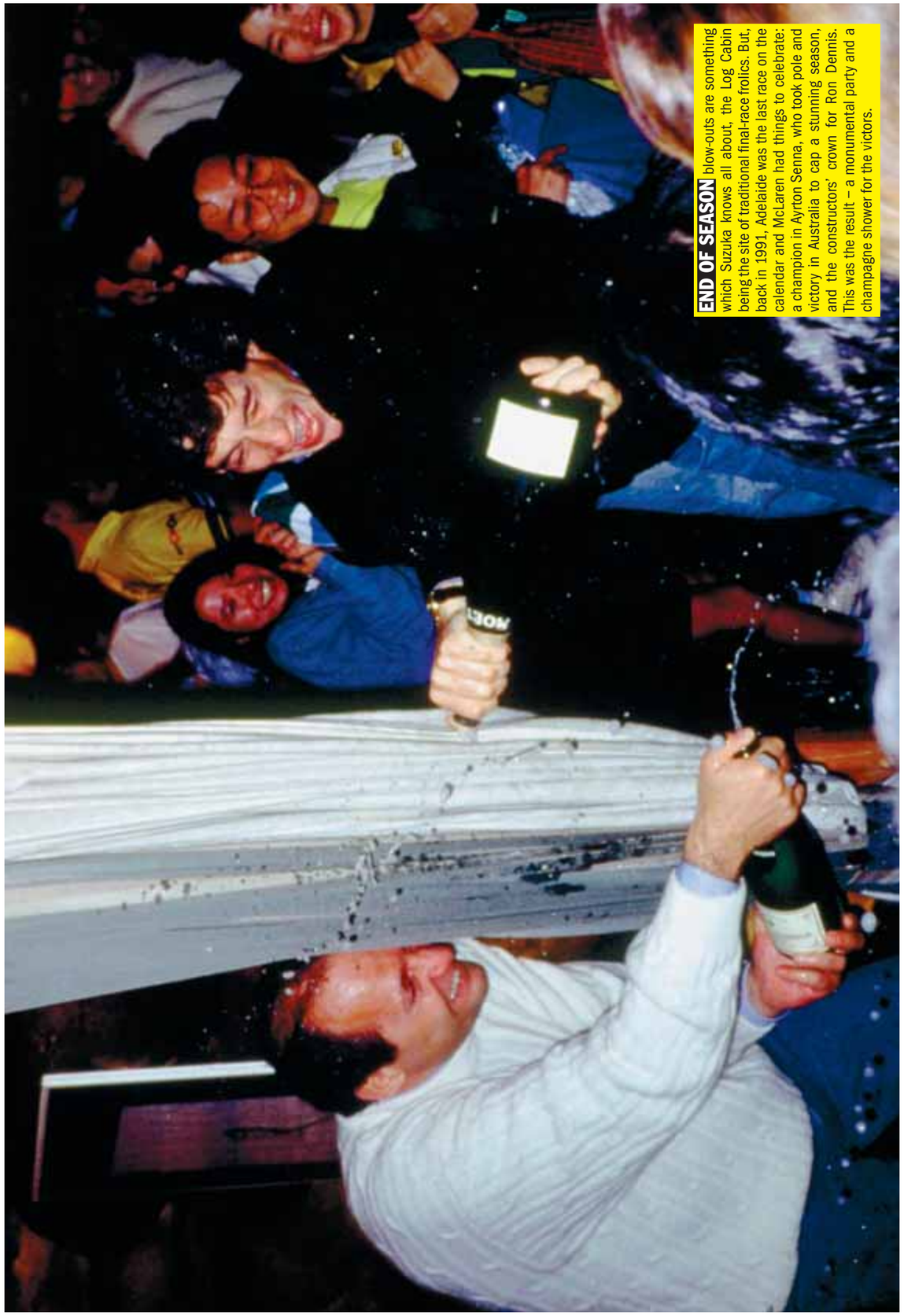
PHOTOS: HIROAKI NARITA



NAME: **RIE MAKITA** AGE: **26**
STAR SIGN: **TAURUS**
OCCUPATION: **WORKS IN RESTAURANT**
I like doing things that I have never done before and discovering new things every day. Even if it's something I don't like, I consider it to be interesting and a good experience. My favourite foods are omelets and shabu shabu. My favourite musicians are Craig David, Gwen Stefani, N.E.R.D., Fall Out and The Calling. Enjoying life is my motto. I may not be so good at expressing myself but I really like it when I can enjoy doing things with other people and they get to understand me better as a person.



NAME: **SAORI YASU**
AGE: **23** STAR SIGN: **SAGITTARIUS**
OCCUPATION: **OFFICE WORKER**
People say I am always upbeat. I just love fun things. But I also like reading books at home. The thing I hate most and am not particularly good at is keeping quiet. I like talking with people all the time. I love F1 too and often watch it on TV late at night. Fernando Alonso is my favourite driver and I'm so pleased he's become champion. This will be the first time for me to see it live however, so I am really looking forward to that. I can't wait to see how fast they really drive.



END OF SEASON blow-outs are something which Suzuka knows all about, the Log Cabin being the site of traditional final-race frolics. But, back in 1991, Adelaide was the last race on the calendar and McLaren had things to celebrate: a champion in Ayrton Senna, who took pole and victory in Australia to cap a stunning season, and the constructors' crown for Ron Dennis. This was the result – a monumental party and a champagne shower for the victors.

PHOTO: DPPI

BET AND WIN WITH BENOIT

Suzuka: one of the great challenges left on the calendar. Michael Schumacher's season is drawing to an unremarkable end but this is one of his favourite circuits, so maybe he's due…

SOME RICH PICKINGS?



MICHAEL'S BACK IN JAPAN, at his second favourite track after Spa. So what's in store this time around? Two Japanese dates will probably stick in his mind from recent outings here. October 8, 2000, when he won his first championship for Ferrari, 21 long years after Jody Scheckter took the previous title for the Scuderia in 1979.

And also October 10, 2004, when Schumi won his last real grand prix, at least the last one in which all the drivers actually took part.

The chances of a return to that sort of form are remote. But then again this is Suzuka – like Spa a track which separates the men from the boys. And Schumacher is still very much the man, even if his car is lacking and Fernando Alonso has borrowed his crown for a while.

All of which makes the Bulletin Bet a tricky prospect here. Do you go for a by now uncharacteristic high placing for Michael, or stick with the form established elsewhere? Five people went positive in Brazil and opted for fourth place. They each walked way with $300.

YOU BET!!!

SCHUMI DOES THE HONSHU SHUFFLE

• Michael's Suzuka problems are all behind him, literally. His career got off to the worst possible start with DNFs in '91 (engine), '92 (gearbox) and '93 (gearbox again). Another DNF came in '98 came courtesy of a punctured right rear.

• Other than that it's been first and second places, with wins in '95, '97, 2000, '01, '02 and '04. The exception being that title-clinching eighth place in '03 which saw Michael bring the Ferrari home despite a string of crashes and near misses.

RULES OF PLAY

The rules are simple. All you have to do is nominate how many laps Michael Schumacher will complete. Opt for a Michael finish and then you'll have to choose his final position. Choose a Schumi win and then you'll need to predict the time-gap back to the next finisher. If nobody guesses correctly the winnings go to the nearest chosen lap, position or time. If you happen to hit the nail smack on the head with your prediction your winnings will be topped up with the Bet and Win Bonus. It starts at 300 euros and, as long as no-one gets the prediction exactly right, it climbs each race weekend by another 300 euros.

HERE'S HOW YOU DO IT:

Find Benoit in the paddock, hand over your 5,000 yen, make your prediction and you're in.

betandwin.com

K RAIKKONEN 2.10 | F ALONSO 4.20 | G FISICHELLA 20.00
J P MONTOYA 3.50 | M SCHUMACHER 12.00 | T SATO 150.00



ILLUSTRATION: ISABEL KLEIT. PHOTO: PAOLO FOSCHINI, SUTTON IMAGES



2005

PHOTO: RAINER SCHLEGELMILCH

1962

BRUCE MCLAREN WAS A CONTROL FREAK.
As much an engineer as he was a racing driver, not being involved in the design process of his Cooper-Climax frustrated the Kiwi. Though he died at Goodwood aged 33, the team he founded has gone on to win eight world constructors' championships... and counting. With McLaren leading the title chase by two points, and with three victories behind him this season, can Juan Pablo Montoya take the top step at Suzuka this weekend?

IT'S WRITTEN IN THE STARS

On Earth as it is in Heaven. On the race track as it is in the Milky Way. Star astrologer Boro Petricelli interprets Heaven's tyre marks and knows this: the Moon in Sagittarius prefers drivers whose faith is forceful and whose driving is divine. But be warned, ye unbelievers: those for whom Formula One is not a religion, will find there's no blessing in Suzuka!

VIRGO
(24 Aug–23 Sep)

ANALYSIS: Heaven is a roulette table and Mercury has tricks up his sleeve. A magician who pulls a gold coin from behind your ear and then presents it to you as a gift. Only thing is, he's also nabbed your purse.



CONCLUSION: Mercury taps on Montoya's shoulder, winks and says: step on the gas! But at the same time hits the brakes himself. It's our best friends who trouble us most.

J P MONTOYA | 20.9.1975 | MCLAREN-MERCEDES

PROGNOSIS: Everything seems perfect. But perfect seems to be an illusion. Montoya could even drop out en route to victory. JP, trust nobody. And avoid casinos at all costs.

CAPRICORN
(22 Dec-20 Jan)

ANALYSIS: We can only advise Fisichella to scratch Saturday from his calendar: the Sun and Mercury are fighting. The luminary of success and the god of communication are in a destructive conflict.



CONCLUSION: This is the constellation of a talented sportsman, the only cloud in the sky is this sportsman struggles to emerge from the doldrums of insignificance.

GIANCARLO FISICHELLA | 14.1.1973 | RENAULT

PROGNOSIS: Old mistakes surface again. Whatever Giancarlo can do on Sunday, he'll already have lost on Saturday.

LEO
(23 Jul–23 Aug)

ANALYSIS: The love goddess, Venus, is on fire for Tiago. That means a pleasant time and luck in love. And if Tiago's great love is F1, then we can expect a good race from him.



CONCLUSION: She's the godess of love, but Venus is not enthusiastic about technology. She doesn't like oily hands. The only thing about F1 which interests her are the tight overalls.

TIAGO MONTEIRO | 24.7.1976 | JORDAN

PROGNOSIS: Tiago will really look cool. Even Yohji Yamamoto could learn a thing or two. But Tiago's points won't be in the same league as Yamamoto's prices.

GEMINI
(22 May–21 Jun)

ANALYSIS: The gods promise two things: laughter and worry. The gods of luck, Jupiter, and of war, Mars, ensure good fun. While the goddess of love, Venus, and success, the Sun, argue and cause annoyance.



CONCLUSION: The laughter seems to prevail, but the joy of success is mixed with bitterness because it's so rare. Rubens won't be able to enjoy an unclouded achievement.

RUBENS BARRICHELLO | 23.5.1972 | FERRARI

PROGNOSIS: Good placing! Nonetheless there's aggravation over a mistake which costs him a few places. The discomfort remains that much more would have been possible.

ARIES
(21 Mar–20 Apr)

ANALYSIS: The Moon is smiling at Christijan's Sun: the luminaries of motion and success are in perfect harmony. For almost any other driver that would mean a spot in the rankings. Only for Christijan it doesn't.



CONCLUSION: Christijan regularly has one of the best of horoscopes. He would rank among the top 10 in the astrological rankings. But what's the use? His car can't match it.

CHRISTIJAN ALBERS | 16.4.1979 | MINARDI-COSWORTH

PROGNOSIS: A nice, but unrewarding, race. The mediocre horoscope of Christijan's Minardi will play the major role.

ARIES
(21 Mar–20 Apr)

ANALYSIS: The god of luck, Jupiter illuminates David's goddess of love, Venus, and the Moon joins in. The last time he had such a good constellation was Monaco. But this time it will be without flaw.



CONCLUSION: We don't expect any punishment or penalty. The worry David should have is that this love-goddess spoils him too much – in the days before the race, perhaps?

DAVID COULTHARD | 27.3.1971 | RED BULL RACING

PROGNOSIS: Maybe not a spot on the podium, but a placing in the points and driving to make us fall in love.

ARIES
(21 Mar–20 Apr)

ANALYSIS: Jacques' temperament is his greatest strength – and his greatest weakness. That's just the way Villeneuve's world works: unpredictable in its effects, but definitive in its causes.



CONCLUSION: Fireball Sun and war-god Mars engage in combat on Sunday, and heat up Jacques' ambition and cockiness. A glowing race with lots of fire and plenty of smoke.

JACQUES VILLENEUVE | 9.4.1971 | SAUBER

PROGNOSIS: Kamikaze! A race like an unstoppable nose dive. He may not complete the distance.

ILLUSTRATIONS: OLIVER SCHOPF

PHOTO: SUTTON IMAGES



WIN A REALLY BIG CAR

BRAIN DRAIN

Over the weekend we'll set you six rather devious questions. Collect your score, pick up the pieces of the puzzle and by next Sunday you might have won this fabulous VW Touareg.

QUESTION 1

Some circuits are driven clockwise, some are driven anti-clockwise. In this regard Suzuka is similar to...



- ☐ **1)** Silverstone
- ☐ **2)** Interlagos
- ☐ **3)** Istanbul
- ☐ **4)** Silverstone and Interlagos

QUESTION 2

Jean might get in serious trouble. With who?





☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4

RULES OF PLAY

There are 19 rounds of the 2005 F1 championship. Identify the missing 20th racetrack and you'll have a crack at winning the grand prize.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:
Correctly answer our six questions over the weekend, and make a note of the number associated with each. Sunday's edition will feature pieces of our mystery track jigsaw puzzle. Match your total score with the corresponding piece of circuit, to be featured in our race-day edition. Cut it out, tape it to your paddock pass, and by Shanghai you should have a complete track.
If it's the map of a real track, then the Touareg could be yours!

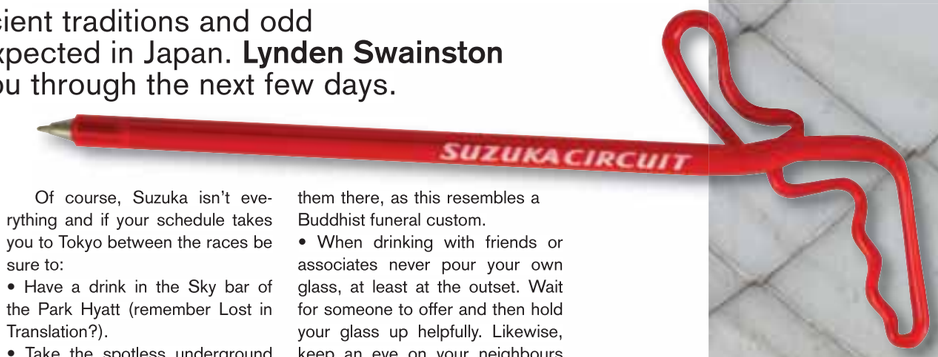
Anyone missing questions can get the full set of PDF back issues online at: http://80.108.198.209/theredbulletin_quiz.pdf

YOUR SUZUKA NUMBERS

sum Friday	points
sum Saturday	points
sum Sunday	points

STRANGERS IN A STRANGE LAND

Interesting cuisine, ancient traditions and odd customs (and costumes) are to be expected in Japan. **Lynden Swainston** offers some advice to help you through the next few days.



Japan is different – probably the most different country we visit and throughout the weekend folk exchange stories of strange happenings – and meals. However, things are very different from even 15 years ago when there was not an English sign and few people in the area spoke anything other than Japanese. In the days when local favourite Ayrton Senna was racing it was customary to see a queue forming from Thursday to enter the track and get the best viewing places – the single line stretched for miles and come rain or shine nobody pushed, caused any fuss or moved out of the white lines marking the route.

Suzuka Circuit is also different, there is actually a lot to do: visit the Motopia Amusement Park, an integral part of the weekend and be shocked by some of the more ferocious rides: Jupiter is worth trying; take a look at the wedding chapel at the back of M block – fully booked each weekend by couples who wish to exchange vows; go 10-pin bowling in the Circuit Hotel and of course do not miss a drink or three in the famous Log Cabin and try some alcohol-induced karaoke.

This is the place to see drivers and mechanics crammed into a booth singing We are the Champions and a few might remember a team owner's son entertaining us with Puff the Magic Dragon some years ago...

There are several restaurants in the Circuit (or Flower Garden as it's now called) Hotel such as the Italian Campanella, Japanese Ajisai or the Chinese Lou Lan, as well as a big self-service. The restaurants are not too expensive but do close early. Reservations are essential and need to be made in person.

It is also easy to wander into the Shiroko town centre and find a little restaurant just off the main drag and sample some very cheap and tasty local fare. The big shopping complex just beyond the Suzuka Royal Hotel has a vast number of international chain restaurants as well as many shops. Good buys down here include cameras, porcelain, stationery and pens.

Beware of some of the traditional restaurants unless you are very brave. No English will be spoken and some very odd items will appear on your plate – I ordered mountain potato with egg one year and was served a type of cold porridge with raw egg. It was disgusting! However, it is worth trying the local sushi or sashimi as you will rarely be disappointed.



Of course, Suzuka isn't everything and if your schedule takes you to Tokyo between the races be sure to:

• Have a drink in the Sky bar of the Park Hyatt (remember Lost in Translation?).

• Take the spotless underground to Ueno station and visit the market under the railway arches to buy the latest in trainers and T-shirts.

See mechanics crammed into a booth singing We are the Champions

• Go to Roppongi and people watch – go into one of the arcades and try some of the amazing games which are way ahead of those in Europe.

• Go to Akihabara and look at the Electronics Stores to see the latest TVs, cameras and toys.

• Have a walk around the gardens of the Imperial Palace.

• Go to Shinjuku and into the Tokyo Hands department store, look at the outdoor section and eat sushi on the top floor.

And if you do get out and about, the following hints may explain why we Westerners are so often caught out in Japan:

• All restaurants provide a hot towel called an oshibori. This is to wipe one's hands (not one's face, neck or nose). Slurping loudly, burping, drinking soup straight from the bowl and talking with a mouth full of food are all perfectly acceptable (slurping is polite). Whatever you do, resist the temptation to blow your nose on the oshibori.

• Japanese use paper hankies and do not approve of the English cotton hanky used and rolled up in the pocket afterwards.

• Do not poke your chopsticks upright in a bowl of rice and leave them there, as this resembles a Buddhist funeral custom.

• When drinking with friends or associates never pour your own glass, at least at the outset. Wait for someone to offer and then hold your glass up helpfully. Likewise, keep an eye on your neighbours and always replenish their half-empty glasses.

• Remove your shoes when entering a Japanese home or restaurant. Shoe incidents (where someone walks off in the wrong pair) are a constant hazard. But if you've got big Western feet, you should be safe. Similarly, in traditional restaurants wear the toilet slippers provided and take them off afterwards.

• Dinner is served early – from 6pm – and traditional restaurants shut up shop by 9pm.

• Tipping is almost unheard of. Many restaurants and all hotels add a 10 per cent service charge to the final bill and will not expect anything extra.

Useful Phrases – just try, our hosts will be delighted to see you make an effort.

• Good afternoon (day): **Konnichiwa**

• Good evening: **Konbanwa**

• Goodbye: **Sayonara**

• Good night: **Oyasuminasai**

• How are you?: **O genki desu ka?**

• Pleased to meet you: **Dozo yoroshiku** or **Yoroshiku onegaishimasu**

• I am fine: **Hai, genki desu**

• And you?: **Anata wa?**

• Thank you (very much): **Domo arigato gozaimasu**

• You're welcome: **Do itashi mashite**

• Listen! (to get attention): **Anone**

• Excuse me (to get attention): **Sumi masen**

• Excuse me (pardon me): **Gomen nasai** or **Shitsurei shimasu**

• I am sorry: **Gomen nasai**

• Please (when offering something): **Dozo**

• Please (when requesting something): **Kudasai**

• Let's go: **Ikimasho**



PHOTO: THOMAS BUTLER



MONSTER HIT Fifty-one years ago, the biggest and baddest screen legend ever made his first appearance. Godzilla, or Gojira as he was called in Japan, was born of a US nuclear experiment and set about trampling Tokyo in his inimitable style – with a high-pitched scream, a blast of radioactive breath and his little rubber legs thrashing as fast as the man in the suit could make them go.

Over the next half century Godzilla would be banished to Monster Island, save the world when aliens set free all the earth's monsters – Rodan, Mothra et al – take on the Smog Monster in an early example of the all too rare eco-monster flick, do battle with a robot version of himself and get reinvented in an awful 1998 Hollywood remake. Godzilla, king of movie monsters and a true legend.

PHOTO: THE RONALD GRANT PICTURE ARCHIVE