

CLASSIC DRIVER

Bonhams Aston Martin Sale at Newport Pagnell - 12th May 2007 - Review



If 2005 was the year of the DB5 hardtop, and 2006 the year of the 'Barn find' DB4, 2007 saw Automobilia reach new heights and a 1970 Aston Martin DB6 Mk2 Volante sell for £430,500.

Works Service at Newport Pagnell once again played host to Bonhams' annual all-Aston Sale. With 12 months of ever-increasing prices, there was fevered speculation when bidding on the motor car lots started after an over-running automobilia section included two **Aston Martin DB4 and 4GT workshop manual** lots selling for £12,650 each, and a **gearlever knob** that featured a hinged lid and red-painted ejector seat button achieving a colossal £41,100. The applause that greeted Toby Wilson's hammer on that one nearly brought the house down.

Back to the motor cars, this year's sale emphasised the importance of the David Brown-era with a nice - but not exceptional - **1966 Aston Martin DB6 Vantage**, estimated at £50,000 - 55,000 but selling for £120,300 (a figure that includes buyer's premium as all our prices do). The other DB6 coupés found new buyers at market prices; the **1967 Aston Martin DB6** for £51,000, and the **1969 Aston Martin DB6 Mk2**, £52,100.

1995 Aston Martin Vantage - Sold for £52,100 1965 Aston Martin DB5 - Sold for £100,500

Convertible DB 6-cylinder Astons always do well at the sale, and if the estimate of £220,000 - 250,000 seemed bullish for the Goodwood Green **1970 Aston Martin DB6 Mk2 Volante**, a car with an impeccable service history at Works service, the final price of £430,500 wowed the saleroom and must be a record for a DB6. Compared to that, the £221,500 achieved by the **1965 Aston Martin DB5 Convertible** seemed 'correct', but certainly not 'cheap'.

Of the V8s, top billing rightly went to the **1989 Aston Martin Vantage Volante 'Prince of Wales'** at £128,000, while the **1978 Aston Martin V8 Vantage** looked a nice car in a popular colour for £34,500. One of the last truly limited-edition cars from Newport Pagnell, the **2000 Aston Martin SWB Vantage Volante Special Edition**, sold at today's market values for £238,000.

1984 Aston Martin Lagonda Saloon - Sold for £11,730 1972 Aston Martin DBS Vantage - Sold for £25,300



Last year's restoration project DB4 sold for £78,500, a high figure at the time considering the likely £250k bill to put the car back to ex-factory condition. In 2007 it was the turn of the only **DB2** entered, an ostensibly complete car but one also requiring a total rebuild (by a smaller number of specialists) and unlikely to see such long-term growth as the DB4. Estimated at £15,000 - 20,000, the **1952 Aston Martin DB2 Drophead Coupé** actually sold for £45,500.

□	□
1952 Aston Martin DB2 Drophead Coupé - Sold for £45,500	1960 Aston Martin DB4 Series 2 - Sold for £54,300

Of the non-sellers, neither registration number found new owners and the **2005 Aston Martin DBR9** fell a little short of the reserve, bid as it was to £440,000.

As previously mentioned the **Automobilia** at a **Bonhams Aston Martin Sale** has developed a momentum of its own.

Gear knobs and **workshop manuals** apart, a sizeable proportion of the sale was the superbly catalogued selection of arch-Aston collector **Ulrich Schödel**. He was 'very pleased' with the results, and significant items sold included the **AM-branded bike** for £9,775, and an **original DB3S Owners manual** for £1,610.

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