CLASSIC DRIVER

Bonhams Aston Martin Sale at Newport Pagnell - 9th May 2009 - Preview

1964 Aston Martin DB5 4.2-Litre Saloon - £160,000 - 180,000

A decade, eh... doesn't time fly? It's the Bonhams Aston Martin Sale, now in its tenth year, and no less interesting. For 2009, the 46-car catalogue includes seven DB4s and yes, there's a 'barn find' or two.

The sale will be held, as usual, at **Aston Martin Works Service's** premises at **Newport Pagnell**, under the watchful eye of **Kingsley Riding-Felce**, **Director**, **Works Service & Parts Operations**. For many years, certain cars bought at the sale have been immediately consigned to total restoration by **Works Service**, one of the most famous being the £78,500 'barn find' DB4 in 2006.

This year there are two **DB4s** that will need extensive re-commissioning. Either will give an owner the satisfaction of seeing 'their' car take shape; either back to its original specification or uprated to include modern conveniences such as PAS and air-conditioning. The first is a **1963 Aston Martin DB4 Series V Vantage** estimated at £20,000 - 30,000, and the second a **1962 Aston Martin DB4 Series V** (£40,000 - 45,000).



The latter is in better condition, but both cars sport three SUs and the Vantage (pictured above) packs a **Special Series** engine as well as faired-in headlights à la **DB4GT** and **DB5**. The original colour on this car was Black with Pearl Red interior – sounds good to me, just hand it over to **Kingsley**...

1977 Aston Martin DBR1 V8 Replica - £60,000 - 1966 Aston Martin DB6 Saloon - £70,000 - 70,000 80,000

In addition to the two restoration projects, other **DB4s** in apparently good fettle include a **1962 Aston Martin DB4 Convertible** (£220,000 - 250,000) and a **1961 Aston Martin DB4 Series III**, for £90,000 - 110,000.

The **DB4** begat the **DB5**, and there are three of the iconic 'Bond' cars in this year's catalogue. The estimates on all are in the high £100ks, so you can probably expect them to hit £200,000 including buyer's premium. We hope to be taking a closer a look at one of these cars nearer the time.

1963 Aston Martin DB4 Series V Vantage - 1995 Aston Martin Virage Limited Edition Coupe £100,000 - 130,000 - £35,000 - 40,000

The headlining car is the **1969 Aston Martin DB6 Mk2 Volante**. This is a painstakingly restored car in Rolls-Royce Midnight Blue with an engine prepared 'to **Vantage** specification'. £320,000 - 360,000 is the estimate.



Moving to more modern **Astons**, the sale includes two of the mighty **1990s Vantage V600s**. The **Pentland Green 1998** example is £80,000 - 100,000, while the **Mendip Blue 1999** car (£75,000 - 85,000) was converted from manual to four-speed automatic by the factory in 1999 and is equipped with the driving dynamic package.

There are no fewer than seven **Virages** this year, ranging from a 1991 coupé for £16,000 - 20,000, to the famous turbocharged **1994 7.0-Litre Limited Edition** car (£38,000 - 45,000). In between there's a **1996 Virage Volante** for £27,000 - 32,000. And, talking convertibles, there are no 'Prince of Wales' cars this year, but the sale does include a regular **1987 Aston Martin V8 Vantage Volante 'X Pack'** for £60,000 - 70,000, and a **LHD 1989 Aston Martin V8 Vantage Volante 'X Pack'** at £75,000 - 85,000.

1961 Aston Martin DB4 Series 3 Saloon - 1978 Aston Martin V8 Saloon - £17,500 - 20,000 £90,000 - 110,000

1995 Aston Martin DB7 Coupé - £20,000 - 1961 Aston Martin DB4 Lightweight Competition - 30,000 £85,000 - 100,000

No **pre-War** cars this year, and only three **DB2s**. One of these is a convertible: the **1955 Aston Martin DB2/4 Mark I 3-litre Drophead Coupé**, for £90,000 - 110,000.

2004 Aston Martin DB7 Zagato Coupé - £85,000 - 95,000

One-offs include the **1963 Lagonda Rapide** (£30,000 - 40,000) and a rather nice **2004 Aston Martin DB7 Zagato Coupé** (£85,000 - 95,000). On the **DB7** front, the sale kicks off with the 'No Reserve' **1995 Aston Martin DB7 Coupé** at £20,000 - 30,000. An innocent catalogue entry, perhaps, but on closer examination this is a car completely covered in gold leaf, platinum and palladium. Just to complete the effect, an arc of six diamonds has been embedded in the bonnet.

All-in-all it's a good, well-estimated catalogue of cars suitable for every **Aston Martin** enthusiast. No DB4GTs, that's true, but if you are looking for an Aston, Newport Pagnell on May 9th is the place to be.

Prior to the motor cars there's the ever-popular **automobilia**. This year's marathon comprises 207 lots, with such gems as **A 'James Bond 007' slot-car racing set, by Scalextric**, estimated at £1,500 – 2,000. 007's car looks as if it's been in the wars a little, but you never know with these automobilia entries - remember the £41,100 gear knob in 2007? Exactly.

The sale takes place at Aston Martin Lagonda Works Service, Tickford St, Newport Pagnell, Bucks, with Automobilia starting at 10:30, Motor Cars at 15:30.

To see all Motor Car entries in the Classic Driver car database please CLICK HERE.

Please **CLICK HERE** to see the full lotlist.

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