

CLASSIC DRIVER

[Bonhams Aston Martin Sale at Newport Pagnell - 9th May 2009 - Review](#)



Auctioneer Jamie Knight was on sparkling form at this year's Works Service sale. The top-selling car was an entry featured [on Classic Driver only recently: the 1965 Aston Martin DB5](#), achieving a 'with-premium' price of £249,000.

As always with the annual extravaganza at **Newport Pagnell**, the occasion is more than the sum of its parts. You will find senior members of **AML's management team** talking to **AMOC members**, old friends finding the time to catch up on restoration projects and tut-tutting at the estimates on cars once in their garages, the chance to look around **Kingsley Riding-Felce's** spotless **Works Service** workshops - and even buy some Aston Martin automobilia or the odd car.

Good heavens, the weather held up this year, too.



Sholto Gilbertson started proceedings at 10:30 sharp with Part I of the **automobilia**. After lunch, auctioneer **Toby Wilson** then sold the final 90-or-so lots - Part II - finishing with an impressive £9,200 for the **'Jack Addis Archive'** of rare photographs in two albums (estimated at £2,400 - 2,800).

In all, the automobilia section of the sale totalled £123,835. No £41,100 gear knobs this time, but the power of a **007** connection was proved by the £17,250 for **'An Aston Martin DB5 dashboard'** (estimate £450 - 650) used in the filming of **'Goldfinger'**.

Bang on the dot of 15:30, and **Jamie Knight** took to the rostrum. First up was the quite extraordinary, gold- and platinum-plated **1995 Aston Martin DB7 Coupé**. Yes, it was truly as bad as it sounds, but someone has bought a useable (resprayable, please...) DB7 for £15,525.



All eyes were then on Lot 304, the 'barn find' **1963 Aston Martin DB4 Series V Vantage** . Forget about the gilded '7; to paraphrase 19th Century prospectors, 'there's gold in them thar barns...'. A few minutes of

furious bidding later, **Knight** hammered the total-restoration project down for £75,000 (that's £84,000 including buyer's premium, as per all our listed prices).

The other - less-desirable specification, but better condition, **1962 Series V - 'project' DB4** sold for £89,500. If fully working, driveable '4s are more your thing, there were several to choose from: a **1961 DB4 Series 3** (£106,000), a **1963 DB4 Series V Vantage** (£122,500) and one drophead, the **1962 DB4 Convertible** for £241,300.

1963 Aston Martin DB5 - Sold for £131,300 1995 Aston Martin DB7 Coupé - Sold for £15,525

Several **DB5s** and **DB6s** were in the sale, with the 'no-expense-spared', **Aston Racing Green DB5** deservedly taking the top slot. The other two '5s sold at correct market prices (£131,300 and £188,500) while the more practical but less-appreciated **DB6** model offered **David Brown-era** enthusiasts the opportunity to buy cars at greatly discounted prices (compared to a '4 or '5).

The immaculate, expensive (estimate £320,000 - 360,000) **1969 Aston Martin DB6 Mk2 Volante Convertible to Vantage specification** failed to find a buyer, with bidding faltering at £310,000. Perhaps another day.

On the eight-cylinder front, there was an interesting (no, I don't know what you'd do with it, either) **1977 Aston Martin DBR1 V8 Replica** that sold for £62,000 and several V8 saloons going for mid- to high-estimate money. The saleroom gasped when bidding finally stopped on the **1989 Aston Martin V8 Vantage Volante 'X Pack'**, though. £129,100 was the final price - ah, the power of a left-hand drive car selling for £sterling...

1989 Aston Martin V8 Vantage Volante 'X Pack' - 1963 Lagonda Rapide Sports Saloon -
Sold for £129,100 Sold for £67,500

Perhaps spotting a resurgence in marque interest with the revival by **AML** of the **Lagonda** name, someone bought the very well presented **1963 Lagonda Rapide** for £67,500, while the 'wedge', a **1990 Aston Martin Lagonda Series 4 Saloon**, went mid-estimate for £24,150.



With Lot 347, a **1995 Aston Martin Virage Limited Edition Coupé**, selling for £24,150, that was it for another year, the total sale achieving just short of £3m.

A thought to leave you with: the immaculate green DB5 sold well for £249,000. The **Works Service** bill alone for this was in the region of £160,000, and it was not a body-off restoration. Where does that leave the buyer of the £84,000 restoration project DB4, looking at likely completion costs of £250,000 and above?

As we see every May at the **Bonhams Works Service Sale**, the Aston Martin marque has an allure all its own.

1995 Aston Martin V8 Coupe - Sold for 1987 Aston Martin V8 Vantage Volante 'X Pack' -
£41,100 Sold for £56,500

1994 Aston Martin Virage 7.0-Litre Limited
Edition Coupé - Sold for £39,450

1969 Aston Martin DB6 Mk2 Volante Convertible
to Vantage specification - Not Sold

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to see the full results.



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