

# CLASSIC DRIVER

## Bonhams Aston Martin Sale at Newport Pagnell, 22 May 2010 - Preview

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1965 Aston Martin DB5 4.2-Litre - £270,000 - 300,000

If you are in the market for a DB5, this year's 'Works Service Sale' could be your chance to buy one, as no fewer than five cars will be sold at Newport Pagnell.

Estimates range from £100,000 - 120,000 for the early production, **1964 DB5 Saloon**, to the £350,000 - 400,000 likely to be achieved by the rare **1965 DB5 Convertible**. Lot 340 is interesting in that it features an in-period, one-off dash treatment by design consultancy **Ogle**, updating the interior from its mid-50s origins to a more futuristic look that might have seen the light of day on the DB6.

The Silver Birch/black hide car has been totally restored by the very best specialists including **Bodylines**, **Spray Tec** and **R.S. Williams Ltd**, the latter installing a 4.2-litre, Weber-equipped engine and subtle enhancements such as air-conditioning and a **Becker Mexico** radio/navigation system.

All very nice and, considering its collectability and the extent of the high quality work done, competitively estimated.

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Two 'David Brown-era' cars vie for top billing at a sale that never fails to surprise. **Design Project 'DP2155', the Works Service-developed, 1959 4.7-litre Aston Martin DB4 Works Prototype** - £280,000 - 320,000 - is a [car we drove recently](#) (and liked immensely), while the chance to buy a '**VMF' Works DB2** does not come along very often.

The dark, almost black British Racing Green car was a regular factory entry in the immediate post-War period of activity by the then Feltham-based company. Drivers who have sat behind the wheel include **Stirling Moss, Eric Thompson, George Abecassis, Tony Rolt** and **Peter Collins** - the bedrock of the factory team in the Fifties. It carries an estimate of £380,000 - 440,000 and, appearing very much 'on the button', would make a terrific entry to any top-class event.

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1950 Aston Martin DB2 Team Car Chassis no.  
LML/50/9 - £380,000 - 440,000

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2000 Aston Martin Vantage V600 Coupé -  
£60,000 - 80,000

Three **Lagondas** will be offered at this year's all-Aston sale. Two are 'wedges' (both **Series IV**, a **1990** for £50,000 - 60,000 and a **1989** at £23,000 - 26,000), while the other is one of only seven cars built, a **1974 Series I 7.0-litre Saloon** in quite the most superb condition for £240,000 - 260,000. To save you looking it up, by the way, in 2008 Bonhams sold a **1976 Series I Saloon** for £254,500.

This year's one does look good: Cumberland Grey with Rolls-Royce Wildberry interior is a superb combination and seems to 'lift' the big car's lines well.

**V600**-fanciers should make their way to **Works Service** on May 22 as three cars are catalogued. Top of the pecking order must be the **2000 'Le Mans' V600 Coupé** for £200,000 - 250,000, but the other, regular (still 600bhp...) cars look attractive, the Rio Verde green example (£60,000 - 80,000) in particular.

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1962 Aston Martin DB4 Series IV  
Vantage - £40,000 - 50,000

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1988 Aston Martin V8 Vantage Volante 6.3-Litre  
Convertible - £100,000 - 120,000

Moving back to the 1950s, in addition to the **Team Car** there are three other '**Feltham Astons**'. Chassis **LML/50/12**, according to the catalogue "regarded as the second actual series-production example of this world-beating British sportscar", carries an estimate of £190,000 - 240,000 and is a rare, '**First Sanction' DB2**. The appellation is given to the early three-piece-grille cars. With FIA papers and a **Rex Woodgate**-built, 3.0-litre engine, the Alpine Blue car would make a good road-racer; hot enough for the track but still usable on a rally or fast drive in the country.

The **1958 DB Mk III** (£70,000 - 90,000) is also race-prepared, while the **1954 DB2/4 3.0-Litre Drophead Coupé** (£70,000 - 90,000) has - incredibly - been raced not once but TWICE on the **Targa Florio**, in 1963

and '64. It now needs some cosmetic work but, at a third of the price of a **DB5**, makes an interesting buying option on the day.

1950 Aston Martin DB2 3.0-Litre 'First  
Sanction' Saloon - £190,000 - 240,000

1962 Aston Martin DB4 Series IV to Vantage  
specification - £110,000 - 130,000

1998 Aston Martin Vantage V600 Coupé -  
£80,000 - 100,000

1965 Aston Martin DB5 Convertible - £350,000 -  
400,000

The annual **Bonhams Works Service Sale** is always an opportunity for prospective Aston owners to find a car at a reasonable price (not to mention joining the **AMOC** and gazing in wonder at **Kingsley Riding-Felce's** immaculate **Works Service** operation). At an entry-but-interesting level, **Bonhams** can offer the **1993 Virage Volante Convertible** (£25,000 - 28,000), a **1998 DB7 'Dunhill' Coupé** (£17,000 - 19,000) and a **'Barn Find' 1968 DB6 Vantage** for £20,000 - 30,000. Mind you, we know [what can happen with low-estimate restoration projects](#) at the Aston sale...

Finally, a look down the list of **70s/80s V8s** reveals a broad selection of coupés and **Volantes** (including a **1989 'Prince of Wales'** for £100,000 - 120,000), and one **Zagato**. The Gladiator Red example (a 1987 for £80,000 - 100,000) has had one owner since 1987, having covered just 12,000 miles and is - for the money - a good opportunity to buy an immaculate, special-bodied 180+mph **Aston Martin** of which just 52 were built.

Prior to the motor cars, **Bonhams** will embark on its traditional **Automobilia** marathon, split in 2010 into two parts: lots 1 - 100 at 10:30, lots 111 - 231 at 13:00. You will find prints, poster, parts and Bond memorabilia aplenty here; it is always one of the highlights of the day and contributes an astonishing amount to the sale's gross figure.

The sale takes place on Saturday 22 May at **Aston Martin Lagonda Works Service, Tickford St, Newport Pagnell, Bucks**, with **Automobilia** starting at 10:30, **Motor Cars** at 14:30.

To see all motor car entries in the **Classic Driver** car database please [CLICK HERE](#).

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