The best of all worlds ...PageT6

MOTORTREND BI-MONTHLY

FEBRUARY 2017



Editor's Note



Fact Jeke

elcome to the first 2017 issue of the Motor Trend in the Financial Gazette. We are an elite auto section which is published bi -monthly to sensitize, inform and give discerning auto enthusiast, executive buyer and the general masses the right news on the industry. Our aim is to provide our readers with cutting edge writing infused with wit and irreverence, top-notch photography and an approach that is entirely different from any other auto magazine. We aim to give you regular articles on all things auto related from vintage wheels, classic collection, new launches and test drives

and motor sport.

In this issue we lead with a brand which hails from France, the Renault. In the next few months you will see the launch of various models from the French car makers which have a price tag for every buyer from budget to high end luxury. Emma Borerwe gets to cruise in the Nissan Patrol courtesy of Nissan Clover Leaf motors and gives us her take on the flag ship from the brand. As a regular, we give you car news, comparisons and also take a look at what top drop into your Toyota, Jeep and compact SUV shopping bag.

When it comes to motor sport, we as

Zimbabweans have one man to shout about, Conrad Rautenbach who defied all odds racing a Toyota at the recently ended Dakar Rally. A rouke who conquered untamed territory and put our nation on the map by achieving a great result.

General Motors has also had some exciting stuff loading into this year with the new Isuzu KB range and the new Chevrolet Trailblazer, so buckle up and enjoy this issue of Motor Trend.

Till next month ciao!





Stepping up in compact SUVs

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his is a vehicle similar to a station wagon or estate car, usually equipped with four-wheel drive for on- or off-road ability. Some SUVs include the towing capacity of a pickup truck with the passenger-carrying space of a minivan or large sedan. Compact Sports utility vehicles and crossovers are a multitalented bunch, a force to reckon with in the automotive world. We have compiled a few of these vehicles which can do almost anything on and off road with ease and still maintain their good looks. In our list, you will breeze through the safest SUVs around, which are ideal for the business executive, the pratical mum and any professional who enjoys driving a multitasker.

The sleek and affordable SUV –Nissan Qashgai



Take on whatever the road throws at you with the next generation of crossover design. Introducing advanced technology, state-of-the-art connected features and dynamic handling that puts the driver in total control. The Nissan Qashqai — the ultimate urban crossover second generation with a lot to offer. It's longer and sleeker than the first generation and the name itself leaves you wondering. Besides Nissans host of active safety features. This vehicles comes in with the petrol and diesel option both offering generous fuel efficiency. Priced under \$50 000 it's a bang for your buck, practical yet dynamic and a strong

contender in its segment. Numerous awards spell out the status of the Nissan Qashqai available at AMC, AMTEC, Croco Nissan and Nissan Clover Leaf Motors

For the trendy and stylish Range Rover Evoque



Over the last six years since its introduction onto the market, this vehicle has on numerous occasions bagged over 200 awards and sill counting. The awards alone makes it something of a novelty. It has all the features you want and even has room for the kids. If you are looking for a stylish head turner then indulge. Last year an addition was put of a convertible which has simiar capabilities. Available in the four door, two door coupe and convertible with a choice of derivatives to suit any customer at Premier Auto Services.

The six speed thoughtful Jeep Compass

Most of us like rugged and tugh too, but the Jeep Compass is two of those things plus thoughtful. The Jeeps combination of these factors and the added pleasures of improved comfort features mean you just have found the vehicle you are looking for. Its more responsive and more responsible, easy on the fuel and light on maintanance. It offers full protection and greater stability, adaptable to any environment and its quiet too... no unnecessary noises. For pricing nd availability get in touch with ZIMOCO in Harare.



A versatile nippy Ford Ecosport.



When the Ford EcoSport was launched almost five years ago, it brought a freshness to the segment all wrapped up in a stylish and dynamic small SUV to a new generation of customers. The urban sport utility vehicle combines the agility, affordability and fuel efficiency of a compact car with the versatility and spaciousness of an SUV. If you are a lover of adventure with a small family or just because you can afford it, this is the perfect mate. With the blue Ford blood running in every piece of steel and component in this car, it will surprise you with great performance. Contact Croco Motors or Dulys.

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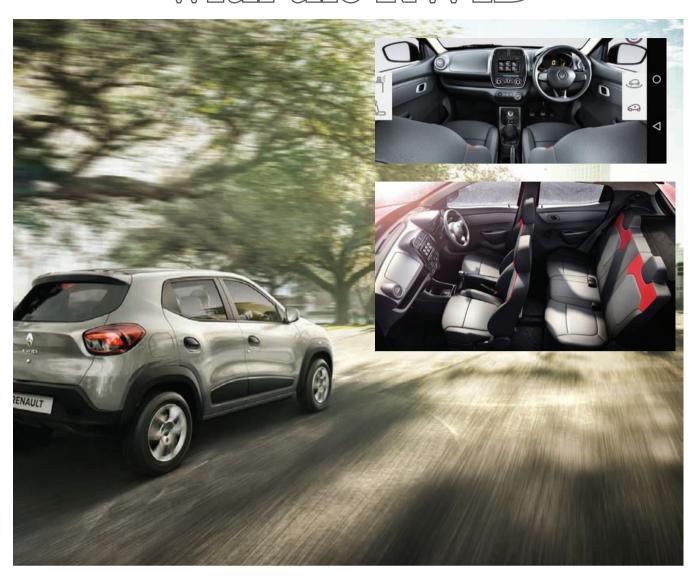






FEBRUARY 2017 MOTORTREND T3

Remault Debut in Zimbabwe with the KWIID



Fact Jeke

fter years of being absent on the Zimbabwean market , the all-French Renault brand is making a comeback. Renault Zimbabwe has put up a state-of-the -art showroom at corner Third Street and Speke Avenue which will be home to the brand housing a number of models.

A vehicle of note which is bound to shake the entry segment budget market is the nippy KWID. An innovative and affordable vehicle which will be a definite bang for your buck, is an SUV inspired hatch. The new Renault KWID is positioned as the entry-point into Renault's product line-up. It overturns established entry segment design cues, thanks to its robust, stylish exterior plus a modern and welcoming interior equipped with generous cabin space as well as features and fitments normally unattainable in its class.

Meticulously designed, the new KWID hatchback is sure to meet the needs of anyone looking to buy an entry-level car. The KWID offers a modern, intuitive interior which includes technologies that not only meet drivers' needs but also make driving simpler and safer. When it comes to tech, the KWID is loaded with so much technology from navigation to touch screens and Bluetooth connectivity.

This eminently modern newcomer features SUV styling and construction. Its high stance and durable design underscore a sense of security while its longer wheelbase (2 422mm) allows for a spacious comfortable cabin plus more rear leg room. Boot space of 300 litres puts the new Renault KWID on par with an upper segment vehicle.

The two derivatives are powered by a new 999cc Smart Control efficiency (SCe) engine mated to a five-speed manual gearbox. What this means for any buyer is that you will literally be driving for the fraction of fuel you normally use, more kilometres for your tank.

With its distinctive SUV-like design and high ground clearance (at 180mm, more than any of its competitors) KWID offers a high driving position and greater visibility making it ideal for zipping around in urban traffic or cruising down the open highway.

Entry-level KWID is modern, smart and stylish inside and out. It combines the comfort and

functional user-friendliness of a city car with a spacious interior and a raft of stowage solutions.

With the introduction of the new KWID, Renault has gone a considerable step further in designing a new breed of vehicle in the growing small-car segment. Its class-leading ground clearance combined with short front and rear overhangs exude an impression of strength, reliability and the look associated with SUVs.

The boldly structured front grille design highlights Renault's trademark diamond-shaped logo while its C-shaped headlights incorporate the brand's new lighting signature.

KWID's slightly sculpted sides provide a fluid, dynamic touch, with the rectangular forms of the black cladded and flared wheel arches a further pointer to its SUV breeding while also affording additional protection. While the lower door decor underlines the KWID's robust character, the steeply-raked, forward-positioned windscreen lends a sense of movement and fluidity to the high waistline which rises slightly at the rear. The large windows ensure good visibility for the driver and play a big part in travelling comfort while the sharp creases on the bonnet give it a muscular look.

At the rear, the lower part of the bumper comes with a black trim - another SUV cue - and the body-coloured tailgate spoiler adds to the car's dynamic stance.

The interior carries over the same bold and confidence-inspiring styling as the outside. The horizontal, uncluttered lines of the dashboard convey an impression of width and refinement. The digital instrument cluster and piano black centre fascia which houses the centrally-positioned MediaNAV system creates a contemporary high-quality feel that combines practicality and style (Dynamique only).

The height adjustable front seats are generously sized offering superior comfort while the electric power steering and one-touch lane change indicator make driving a breeze.

Electric front windows add to driver and front passenger convenience while the powerful air-conditioning with heater ensures driving pleasure irrespective of the weather. All controls are easy to reach from both driver and passenger sides. The open storage space fac-

ing the front passenger, lower glove box (plus upper glove box in Dynamique variant), driver and passenger in-door storage space with 1-litre bottle holder and rear parcel tray translate to practical and convenient stowage space.

The compact 1.0- litre three-cylinder Smart Control efficiency (SCe) engine powering both KWID models has been optimised for power and performance and pushes out peak power of 50kW @ 5 500 rpm and maximum torque of 91Nm @ 4 250 rpm. Drivers will enjoy its good responsiveness and drivability at low revs and wide torque band across the rpm range. An extremely fuel efficient petrol powered engine, it's paired to a five-speed manual gearbox and delivers an incredible 4.71 litres/100 km. The fuel tank holds 28 litres.

Key features include:

- One of the lightest engines in the 1 litre range with aluminium cylinder block and head. Optimized usage of composite materials for weight reduction.
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Take a load off

A sturdy yet compact utility vehicle that comes packed with surprises, the K2700 delivers in both durability and comfort. Add a spacious cabin, easy changing 5-speed manual transmission, economical fuel consumption and a lower tray for easy cargo accessibility, the K2700 doesn't just let you carry more but lets you DO



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Mada Borerwe

ord has recently commissioned a 2.5 billion rand Ford Silverton Plant in South Africa which produces the Ford Wild Track and the Ford Everest. Production of the Everest in South Africa has enabled Ford to significantly expand the line-up, which is now on sale in South Africa, and is now being exported to markets across sub-Saharan Africa which include Zimbabwe.

The new Ford Everest has created a huge stir in the SUV segment when it was launched in September last year, delivering outstanding levels of sophistication, luxury, all-terrain performance and versatility. Along with the two original high-spec 3.2 XLT and Limited 4x4 models (originally built in Thailand), regionalised assembly sees the addition of a further six derivatives, all built to Ford's stringent global quality standards. This includes five all-new 2.2-litre versions in XLS or XLT trim, as well as the option of a new 3.2 XLT 4x2.

"Our new and much broader line-up for the Ford Everest meets the need for high-value mid-range models, which dominate the sales in this segment," said Hope Kemadjou head marketing- Dulys Holdings Limited. "Buyers now also have the option of manual or automatic transmissions, as well as 4x2 or 4x4 models to suit their specific needs".

The Ford 2.2 XLS offers the practicality of a seven seater configuration, impressive levels of standard specification, great performance and outstanding value for money. The 2.2 XLS is available in three versions, comprising a two-wheel drive derivative with six-speed manual gearbox, along with an automatic model that uses Ford's smooth-shifting Select Shift six-speed transmission to deliver seamless power and refinement, with the added benefit of sport and manual modes for ultimate control.

For drivers that intend heading far off the beaten track, there's the Everest 2.2 XLS 4x4, equipped with a manual transmission. The intelligent four-wheel drive system provides permanent drive to all four wheels, using an active transfer case with high and low range, a rear differential lock and Torque on Demand to deliver optimum performance and traction in all conditions. This

is bolstered by the 225mm ground clearance and substantial 800mm water wading depth. Common to all 4x4 models is Ford's innovative Terrain Management System that boasts four driving modes: Normal, mud, sand and rock crawl.

In line with its sophisticated character, the Ford Everest boasts a high level of standard comfort, convenience and safety features that make it one of the smartest and most advanced SUVs on the market. One of the most exciting new technologies, available for the first time in Sub-Saharan Africa, is Ford's latest-generation integrated communications and entertainment system, fitted as standard on all XLT and Limited models. It includes a total of 10 speakers and two USB ports for multimedia connectivity. Numerous other sophisticated technologies fitted as standard on the Ford Everest include Electronic Stability Programme (ESP) with Traction Control, Hill Launch Assist and Trailer Sway Control. Further safety features encompass dual front, side and full-length curtain airbags. A driver's knee airbag is standard on the XLT and Limited, and optional on the XLS. All three specification grades include rear parking sensors linked to a full colour rear view parking camera on the four-inch display for the XLS or the 8-inch touch screen for XLT and Limited the latter also featuring front parking sen-

New to the Everest line-up is the refined and extremely capable 2.2-litre four-cylinder unit, which produces a maximum power output of 118kW at 3 700r/min, linked to a torque peak of 385Nm from 1 500 to 2 500r/min – thus ensuring impressive performance in all conditions. The mighty 3.2-litre five-cylinder turbodiesel engine remains the range-topping choice, delivering 147kW and a massive 470Nm for superlative allround performance. Both versions are rated for a maximum towing capacity of 3 000kg, reinforcing the Everest's exceptional allround capabilities – particularly as a lifestyle vehicle.

The New Ford Everest is available for sale in Zimbabwe. For Pricing or to book a test drive call Dulys Holdings or Croco Motors your authorised Ford Dealers.



FEBRUARY 2017

Two practical options from Jeep



Andrew Gaza

eep is an American brand of vehicles and its product range consists of SUVs and off- road vehicles. Initially Ithe Jeep was designed for the US military and was the most common vehicle used during World War II as well as the post war period. However the Jeep has evolved over the years and has had major structural and DNA changes. It's a brand which exudes a persona of glamour and sophistication when you start driving the Jeep you will be hooked for life! This review is a rough shopping guide of what you can expect when you buy a Jeep, I hope these will be helpful. Happy shopping!

The Jeep Grand Cherokee

The premium large SUV of the Jeep line-up, the Grand Cherokee represents the standard in terms of power, comfort, innovation and craftsmanship. The Grand Cherokee is the most awarded large SUV ever and it continues to evolve and features a new exterior and interior design, new advanced technological contents and enhanced onroad and off-road manners thanks to its all-new eightspeed automatic transmission.

Salient features include new bi-xenon headlamps with LED daytime running lights (DRLs), new wheel designs and new interior/exterior colour combinations. Handcrafted interiors now deliver even more refinement to the Jeep flagship thanks to the use of premium leather and high-quality wood. The introduction of a new three-spoke steering-wheel adds to the exclusive character of the cabin. The Jeep Grand Cherokee offers the most advanced safety features, including updated Forward Collision Warning with Crash Mitigation and all-new Select-Speed Control: both complement the vehicle's already rich array of standard active and passive safety systems. Grand Cherokee's new eight-speed automatic transmission is paired with all engine variants. The new eight-speed transmission ensures reduced consumption and emissions, while delivering guicker acceleration and a more precise and smooth shifting.

The Jeep Wrangler

Jeep Wrangler is a vehicle renowned for its on- and offroad capabilities, courtesy of an all-new, more fuel-efficient and more powerful 3.6-litre V-6 petrol engine and a five-speed automatic transmission. Highlights include upgraded materials, automatic temperature controls, power mirrors and steering-wheel-mounted controls for vehicle systems. Larger rear windows are engineered for greater visibility, and a USB port connects to the media centre.

Jeep Wrangler's signature features include classic round headlamps, seven-slot grille, trapezoid wheel flares, removable doors, exposed hinges, a fold-down windshield and innovative removable and convertible tops and halfdoors that allow Wrangler to retain the brand's iconic appearance and function. New Wrangler Sahara model now features a body colour hardtop option, offering a premium appearance. The Wrangler is equipped with an all-new 3.6-litre Penta star V-6 engine and automatic transmission which enhance the Jeep Wrangler's on-road driving performance – delivering 43 percent more power, 10 percent more torque and reduced fuel consumption – while also taking the vehicle's legendary off road capability to a new level. The Limited Edition of the Jeep Wrangler is available on the Jeep Rubicon. Both the Wrangler and the Rubicon were voted the best 4x4 vehicles of the decade.

The Jeep brand continues to achieve milestones both in Zimbabwe and internationally. For Pricing and availability contact ZIMOCO your authorised Jeep dealer.



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The best of both worlds - Leisure and workhorse combined



Bakkies have over the years evolved with the introduction of more innovation which makes life easier and the vehicle a fun drive. Below are a few vehicles which of late now combine a bit of luxury and practicallty and still delivering as they cruise through the cities and rough terrains. Mining, construction and the agriculture industries are literally spoilt for choice with these additions.

The Tough Isuzu KB-series

As the new Isuzu Pick-up continues its engagement in key African markets, ongoing processes of quality management and engineering development ensure that the new Pick-up is built in Africa, for Africa.

With the harsh environments of the African continent dictating vehicle specifications and design — including fuel quality, road conditions, consumer demands and vehicle versatility — Isuzu engineers not only had to design and develop specific elements of the Isuzu Pick-up to cope on a long-term basis, but also ensure the quality of each and every aspect that goes into the production of an internationally renowned pick-up — to ensure complete peace of mind and trouble-free motoring for the customer.

As a result, the new Isuzu Pick-up features a number of uniquely African solutions to the problems and challenges that were identified. For example, a larger radiator is fitted to assist in improved cooling, and the radiator fan is indeed placed behind the radiator to remove the risk of fan blade damage when entering water at speed. The high-ride suspension design which allows for ground clearance of up to 224 mm (linked to high profile tyres) enables for enhanced peace of mind when driving on particularly bad roads.

With certain derivatives available with four-wheel drive, traversing even the toughest of environments becomes an easy and enjoyable task thanks to great ground clearance, all-terrain tyres and an advanced 4x4 system with an electronic configuration switch which allows for easy transition between 2-Hi, 4-Hi and 4-Lo driving modes.

The result of customised design, development, engineering and production done in Africa, for Africa. On the downside the ride is not as comfortable on rough terrain, but then again it's a bakkie, its meant to do rough hard work. Autoworld has stock available in Harare and



Bulawayo.

More Powerful Single Cab 3.2-litre Duratorq TDCi

Ford Ranger

The current Ranger is one of the toughest, most capable trucks out there and offer and delivers more than its competitors. When it comes to style and comfort it stands tops and also size does matter, giving you bigger and better performance. These two powerful Single Cab derivatives powered by Ford's 3.2-litre diesel powertrain will have your foot trembling on the accelerator. The 3.2TDCi models is available in either 4x2 or 4x4 guise with both offered in XLS specification and mated to a 6-speed manual transmission. Manual never kills the joys of driving especially in a truck with our near to no tar roads these models will add the funk and fun into your fleet.

The 3.2-litre Duratorq TDCi five-cylinder diesel engine offers a substantial 470Nm of torque and power rated at 147kW. The impressive performance does not come at the expense of frugality with both models utilising only 9.3l/100km of fuel on a combined cycle route. Emissions are measured at 245g/100km on both the 4x2 and 4x4 models. Move over Toyota Hilux, there is a new king on the reigns with more to offer.

The Ranger also offers notable towing capabilities with the 4x4 model able to tow up to 3 350kg when fitted with the range topping diesel engine. For farmers and logistic business owners, this will save you time as you can ferry spare parts and tyres without a glitch.

The Ranger has been designed to cater to a wide spectrum of customers. If it's an addition to your fleet you are looking for, the Ranger is reputable and capable and available in many derivatives either on double cab, king cab or single cab. For pricing, finance options and aftersales service visit the Croco Motors or Dulys showroom.

Rugged new Nissan Patrol Pick-up

For those not familiar with the Patrol Pick-up, over six decades on, this has been a legend from the Nissan brand. Sporting a sharp new look

with rugged overtones, a new diesel engine and upgraded features.

The Patrol nameplate has been running strongly for over 60 years and the new Patrol pickup builds on this heritage. It is an authentic 4x4 which represents Nissan's commitment to the large pickup segment in sub-Saharan Africa with a bakkie that expresses the brand's ultimate 'do-anything' attitude, especially in the roughest and toughest environments.

Up for any challenge, the new Patrol Pick-up has the perfect mix of brawny good looks and brute performance to make light work of even the most daunting terrain. Its all-terrain suspension, impressive torque delivery and superior off-road performance makes traversing any terrain for any purpose easy and reassuring. Couple these factors with its low cost of ownership and the Patrol Pick-up is easily identified as the best workhorse and status symbol — the ultimate 4x4 that gets the job done, comfortably.

The new Patrol Pickup looks tough, and is tough. Available in single-cab configuration and with a diesel-powered 4x4 drivetrain, the new Nissan Patrol Pickup 3.0DTi 4x4 5-speed manual is powered by a turbocharged and intercooled new-age 16-valve diesel engine which features common rail fuel injection for improved filtration, greater efficiency, enhanced durability and improved power output. Producing 110 kW at 3 600 rpm and 371 Nm of torque between 1 800 and 2 400 rpm, drivability is exceptionally refined especially due to the low and widespread torque availability. Coupled to this, a class-leading towing capacity of 2 500 kg emphasises the Patrol Pickup's abilities as an all-rounder for work and leisure purposes.

It realises average fuel economy of 10.9-litres per 100 km on the combined cycle and, with two fuel tanks totalling 175 litres, a range of over 1 600 km between fill-ups is easily achievable.

The new Nissan Patrol Pickup is available at Nissan Clover Leaf Motors and other authorised Nissan dealers nationwide, which also has access to a full range of accessories including spot lights, cattle rails, replacement bumper, winch, snorkels and audio system along with many others, allowing owners to customise their Patrol Pick-up to perfectly suit their requirements. They will assist with pricing and availability.



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The Toyota Land Cruiser: King of the road

Mada Borerwe

he Toyota Land Cruiser currently holds the longest running history in all the vehicles produced by Toyota with production of the vehicle dating back to 60 years. The Land Cruiser originally came from the Toyota Jeep BJ which was produced in 1951, the name "Land Cruiser" was later adopted in 1954 and the Land Cruiser has been known by that name ever since.

Brief History of the birth of the Land Cruiser

In 1950 North Korea Invaded South Korea, the United States and the United Nations quickly went to rescue South Korea. At that time Japan was still under American occupation so it was used as a supply base by these special -forces. The US government commissioned car manufacturers in Japan to supply compact four wheel drive trucks to the US military. The specifications of the vehicle required was a four wheel drive vehicle similar to the Willis "Jeep", however it had to be built in Japan using domestically sourced raw materials. Toyota was selected and got a lot of purchase orders because it had initially supplied the Japanese forces with trucks in the 1940s.

Toyota began designing the vehicles and in August 1951 the car manufacturer produced a prototype with a B Type gasoline engine powered water cooled in line 6 cylinder 3.386cc engine installed on a SB type 1 tonne truck chassis. At that time there were a lot of Jeeps being driven in Japan and the Jeep had become a symbol of the 4x4, therefore Toyota decided to call its Prototype the Toyota Jeep BJ. It took about 2 years for the prototype to be approved and large scale production of the Toyota Jeep BJ began in the second half of 1953. The following year the car manufacturer had to remove the Jeep tags from their vehicle because the name Jeep had been trademarked by the Willis Company. The technology director then Mr. Hanii Umehara decided to rename the vehicle to "Land

The Toyota Land Cruiser 200 Series

The rich history of the Land Cruiser exhibits the reason why the Japanese car manufacturer is confident about this vehicle brand. When you buy a land cruiser you will never be disappointed as it is a car that is built to do the Job and most importantly give you your money's worth. I had the pleasure of driving the new Land Cruiser and yes it is "The King" of the road. As I approached a road Block on my way to Chinhoyi I could just see that the vehicle itself commanded a lot of respect. The car was being driven by yours truly and the policemen just saluted and made me pass! I felt very important and I made up my mind that one day (in the near future of course!) I would own a Land Cruiser.



easy to drive especially on long distances.

The 4,5 Twin turbo engine has been tweaked on this new model with new fuel injectors. Fuel use also has come down slightly in the diesel to 9.5 litres per 100km from the previous model which was 13 litres per 100km. The cabin has numerous upgraded features such as a wireless smart phone charger (if your phone is compatible), multi terrain monitor, a cool box, heated front and second row seats, ventilated front seats and screens mounted at the back of the front seats to entertain the passengers.

The 200 series' full time 4- wheel drive is very capable even in high

range and beautifully adds extra control in low range. It can tow up to 3 500kg and up to 200kg on the roof. The 200 Series remains a mighty machine and one that continues to deliver supreme on-road refinement and comfort as well as excellent off-road capability. The Land Cruiser 200 Series is available on the Toyota Zimbabwe show room floors.

For pricing contact Toyota Zimbabwe your authorised Toyota dealer.

Additional source: Toyota.com and 4x4 Australia.com



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egularly servicing your car can make the difference between it running smoothly and fuel efficiently, and the risk of it breaking down and incurring an expensive and unexpected repair. It can be a false economy to avoid regular car servicing, since expected wear and tear requiring minor maintenance, can fast become a costly major repair or replacement.

The service schedule for your vehicle will depend on the manufacturer and also depend on the car's mileage and age.

Well this past December I experienced first class service when I took my car into PitStop service centre in Workington. My trusted VW Bettle being bought used and exJap has become too needy when it comes to aftercare hence the need for an experienced professional service centre. I had a minor service done which meant that the whole festive season my vehicle was in tip top shape. Pit-Stop, does car service and automotive mechanics on the go with state of the art equipment and well trained mechanics using only Motul lubricants. Motul is a primary partner as they have a wealth of experience when It comes to good quality lubricants.

They have your vehicle servicing and car repairs covered at an affordable price which left me with sizeable change for the festive season. From servicing, car repairs, warrant of fitness, brakes, exhausts and mufflers, shock absorbers and tyres, and more, you know you've come to the right place when you visit PitStop!

My minor service consisted of the following action points including, four changes and four top-ups.

The changes included engine oil, oil filter and wheel nut torque (depending on the vehicle's mileage and manufacturer specification). The garage also checked and changed the tyre pressure and top up the clutch fluid, power steering reservoir, brake fluid level and windscreen washer.

What made this service different is that when they did diagnostics, they also did a full report on my suspension, shocks and every other major element they felt I should attend to this I found very helpful and a cut above the rest as it enabled me to plan for my major service and save up for it in time. Parts don't come cheap especially when you have to change so many things so planning is important.

The garage also performed checks on other parts of the vehicle and if these parts need changing they will communicate this with you in advance before carrying out the work to make sure you are aware of what additional work is required and whether any further costs may be incurred.

PitStop offers a FREE SAFETY check to all customers, so if you are looking for peace of mind and service you can trust, you may want to give them a try.

Congratulations to Baker Tilly on a successful re-brand and for meeting international standards. May you build more people and impact more nations as your journey continues....



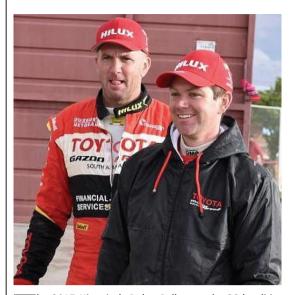


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Motor Sport News

Conrad Rautenbach excels at the Dakar Rally



he 2017 Historical Dakar Rally was the 38th edition of the event and the ninth successive year that the event was held in South America. The event started in Asunción, Paraguay on January 2, then ran through Bolivia and Argentina, before returning to Buenos Aires on January 14 after 12 stages of competition. The race covered approximately 9000km in 13 days over the highest altitude of 4895m. Toyota was the most chosen brand and finisher with 36 of the 79 competing vehicles and 28 of the 57 fin-

Zimbabwe for the very first time at this rally shone brightly with one of our fellow countryman Conrad Rautenbach finishing 9th overall. He is the first roukey ever to go thus far and excel like that. The results and positions below.

- Positions: -

1st Production Vehicle Winner: Team Landcruiser Auto Body #327 - C. Lavieille/J. P. Garcin

2nd Production Vehicle Winner:

Team Landcruiser Auto Body #322 - A. Miural/L. Lichtleuter

4th Overall:

Overdrive Toyota #305 - N. Roma/A. H. Bravo

5th Overall:

TOYOTA GAZOO Racing South Africa #302 - G. D. Villiers/D. V. Zitzewitz

9th Overall:

Overdrive Toyota

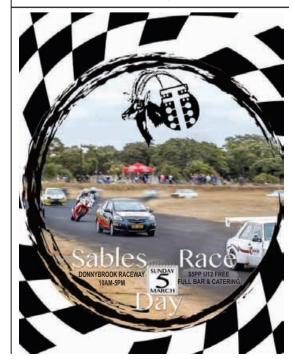
#320 - Zimbabwe's very own C. Rautenbach/R/Howie

Winner Truck Under 10L: Hino Team Sugawara

#516 – T. Sugawara/S. Sigiura

About Conrad Rautenbach

For Conrad Rautenbach, the perfect racing driver has to be able to master WRC races and the Dakar. The first part is a major chapter in his life. The Zimbabwean has indeed over 50 WRC rallies under the belt and his dream was to one day come and discover the Dakar. Son of a rally driver, he started competing just after getting his driving licence at the age of 16. His first co-driver was actually his dad.





The Nissan Patr Innovation at ever

Andrew Gaza

he Nissan Patrol has a proud history and reputation of versatility, capability and extreme performance. This history has been carried forward into the new model adding a distinct sense of refinement, ground breaking technology and exceptional comfort.

The Nissan Patrol is a luxurious full size 4x4 wagon with a seating capacity of seven. From the driver's seat the Patrol feels big, but the relatively high seating position and low window lines mean that vision out front and off to the sides is good. That helps when parking, often a challenge given the sheer size of the car. It has so much comfort and very little road noise and on smooth roads you can hardly hear the engine, it is like being in an air craft the only difference is that you will be on the ground. It is equipped with a very light steering wheel which offers good feel. The big car steers steadily even on bumpy roads and is just the ideal vehicle for Zimbabwean roads. The Body Motion Control (HBMC) suspension system acts as both shock absorbers and stabiliser bars, the HBMC system ensures you stay on the ground, even when you are driving on a rugged road. That same suspension system allows the car to do some off road tricks, allowing each wheel to lift over a bump or drop right down when there is a deep hole.

The new Patrol has been given a facelift from the previous model, you will quickly notice the new chunky grille, the head lights and the bumper. The following features make the patrol a cut above the rest:

- Proximity key entry and start, which means you can unlock the car and drive away without handling the key (provided you have it nearby in a pocket or bag).
- To start the engine, you push a button.
- Sidesteps, to help you get in and out of the car.
- A reversing camera, and cruise control.
- Tilt and reach steering wheel adjustment.
- Bluetooth phone connectivity, and controls on the steering wheel for your phone and the sound sys-
- An eight-inch touchscreen display, with satellite
- An audio system with a hard drive (for music storage) and USB and iPod ports.
- Three-zone climate control, so that the driver, frontseat passenger and rear passengers can individually set their desired cabin temperatures. A sunroof.
- Three rows of seats, all trimmed partly in leather.
- Eight-way powered adjustment for the front seats. Headlights that switch on automatically when it gets dark, and windscreen wipers that operate au-
- tomatically when it rains. Shiny 18-inch alloy wheels, a full-size spare, and tyres with notably high sidewalls (tall sidewalls are less fashionable and sporty looking, but they are more suitable for off-road driving than the low-profile tyres commonly fitted to expensive 4WD vehicles). There is also a system that warns you if one or more of the tyres is losing air pressure.

The Patrol is equipped with the VK56VD 5.6 litre V8 engine, backed by a seven speed automatic transmission which can be put in manual mode and adaptive shift control. The powerful engine is attributed to its massive fuel consumption which is about 16.8 litres per 100km.

To book a test drive or for pricing contact Nissan Clover Leaf Motors.

ALL-NEW JAGUAR F-PACE

THE PERFORMANCE CAR OTHERS LOOK UP TO





Jaguar's first performance SUV, the All-New F-PACE blends power with technology and practicality. InControl Touch Pro* offers state-of-the-art infotainment with features such as intuitive 'pinch and swipe' control through the 10.2" HD Touch-screen.

For added convenience, the hands-free Gesture Tailgate gives access to class-leading boot space of 650 litres*.* Plus there's the world's first Activity Key - a robust, waterproof wristband so you can leave your key fob inside your car, while you dive into the outdoors.

No wonder the competition looks up to F-PACE.

Visit Premier Auto Services Zimbabwe for more information or to book a test drive.

Premier Auto Services Zimbabwe

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THE ART OF PERFORMANCE



2017 Trailblazer: Safety, refinement

Shirley Mhuru

fter a few years on the market Chevrolet has come out swinging in the seven-seater SUV market once again, with a revised Trailblazer line-up that represents even better value for money and gives buyers more options in terms of drivetrains and specification.

The 2017 model year range now comprises five manual and automatic versions of the rear-wheel-drive 2.5-litre LT, rear and four-wheel-drive auto and manual versions of the 2.8 LTZ and a new flagship in the shape of the Z71, which is based on the LTZ 4x4.

The new Trailblazer brings together superior levels of refinement, styling, comfort and technology with class-leading performance and drivability to meet the versatile needs of increasingly discerning customers.

Chevrolet Trailblazer buyers can now opt for an uprated 2.5-litre turbodiesel engine (VGT – Variable Geometry Turbo) with a sixspeed automatic transmission in the LT trim level. This 132kW/440Nm combination is

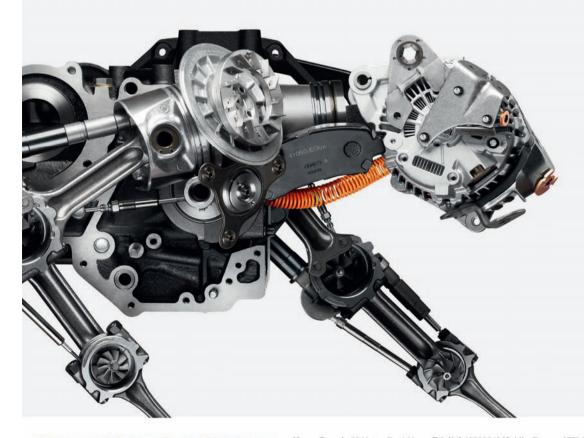




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All Nissan genuine parts are designed and manufactured to comply with the highest quality standards and safety guidelines, ensuring reliability. Every Nissan genuine part is created to fit in seamlessly and tried and tested in the harshest conditions to guarantee that they keep performing optimally day in and day out.



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- Nissan Dealer of the Year 9 Times
- Nissan After Sales Achievement Award 2015

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Nissan Clover Leaf Motors Main and the Control of t

unique to models equipped with automatic transmissions and gives it impressive punch exactly where it is needed, irrespective of load. Combined fuel consumption for the 2.5L Automatic models is rated at 8.6 l/100 km with 226 g/km of CO2 emissions. Acceleration from 0 to 100 km/h takes 11.0 seconds with a top speed limited to 180 km/h.

The familiar 2.5L Duramax four-cylinder turbo-diesel (FGT – Fixed Geometry Turbo) engine continues to do duty in the 2.5 LT when matched with the six speed manual transmission. Power is rated at 120 kW, with 380 Nm of torque. Combined fuel consumption is 7.6 l/100 km, CO2 198 g/km. Acceleration form 0 to 100 km/h takes 11.8 seconds with a top speed limited to 180 km/h.

Top of the range models come equipped with the proven 2.8 litre Duramax Turbo-diesel (VGT) engine which boasts 144 kW, and a class leading 500 Nm of torque. No other body-on-frame SUV on the market can match this proven powerplant when it comes to torque output, which makes tackling even the toughest on-road as well as off-road challenges a walk in the park for the Trailblazer.

The combined fuel consumption figure for models with this engine is 9.5 l/100 km, CO2 is 249 g/km. Acceleration from 0 to 100 km/h takes 10.4 seconds with a top speed limited to 180 km/h. All models have a 76 litre fuel tank.

All Trailblazer models (bar the 2.5 manual – 2515 kg) can legally pull a braked trailer weighing 2 965 kilograms.

LTZ models are available with optional four wheel drive with low range, which is the default set-up on the Z71. Changing between the two-high, four-high, and four-low drive modes is just a turn of a dial away.

Brakes are equipped with four channel ABS with electronic Brake Force Distribution on all models. Brakes are 300 mm ventilated discs in front and 295 mm discs at the rear.

The new Trailblazer is now fitted with an all new Electronic Power Steering (EPS) system. The new EPS system features Active Pull and Smooth Road Shake Compensation which all add to a smoother more refined driving experience.

The Trailblazer's power steering control module employs active controls to sense and reduce the periodic torque component applied to the steering wheel caused by front wheel imbalance. This software feature will compensate for a specific range of imbalance. If the imbalance is above a certain level, the power steering control module will disable the smooth road shake compensation software feature.

Inside, the trailblazer boasts a newly designed dashboard and front console with a contemporary upmarket feel, enhanced by soft-touch materials and contrast stitching.

The Trailblazer is well suited to both the urban commute as well as long cross country adventures. It has all the comfort and convenience features expected from a luxury SUV of this size including no fewer than five points for charging devices and eight cup holders.

A unique feature of the Trailblazer is the provision of adjustable air conditioning for passengers in all three rows.

Fold-flat third row seating is also a key defining feature of this thoughtfully-designed family SUV. The new Trailblazer offers a more hushed ambience in the cabin thanks to a revised sound-deadening package and a more premium look and feel has been achieved with more widespread use of soft-touch materials and updated satellite controls on the leather-rimmed steering wheel. Leather upholstery is fitted as standard irrespective of the model.

Another unique feature available on 2.8 LTZ models is Remote Vehicle Start which allows the vehicle to be started from outside using the buttons on the key fob. This functionality allows for additional driver and passenger comfort by activating the climate control system and rear demister depending on ambient conditions. In this mode, the vehicle remains locked and cannot be driven until the key is inserted into the ignition slot.

Safety equipment across the range still includes ABS with EBD, PBA (Panic Brake Assist), HBFA (Hydraulic Brake Fade Assist), seven airbags (including full-length curtain airbags) - the Trailblazer also picks up a driver's knee airbag for added protection, pre-tensioning seatbelts, ISOFIX child seat anchors and front park assist.

LTZ models benefit from the addition of Stabilitrak electronic stability/traction control, HDC (Hill Descent Control), and TSC (Trailer Sway Control). A rear mounted camera parking assistance system with cross traffic alert is also fitted.

Technology added to LTZ models for the 2017 model year are forward collision alert, lane departure warning, side blind zone alert, rear cross traffic alert and tyre pressure monitoring; giving it one of the most comprehensive driver aid packages available at this level.

The Trailblazer is a very attractive proposition in this segment with its intelligent tumble flat seven-seat configuration, generous equipment, excellent safety levels and established engines backed up by Chevrolet's Complete Care after sales package. For pricing and availability contact Autoworld

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