

# → I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT...

PINK FLOYD DRUMMER **NICK MASON** REVEALS A FEW OF HIS FAVOURITE THINGS



**D**rummer Nick Mason, 62, was part of Pink Floyd's original line-up, picking up the sticks in 1965 and playing on every album since. But music was not his first love – ever since watching his father drive vintage Bentleys around Silverstone in the Fifties, his real passion has been motor racing.

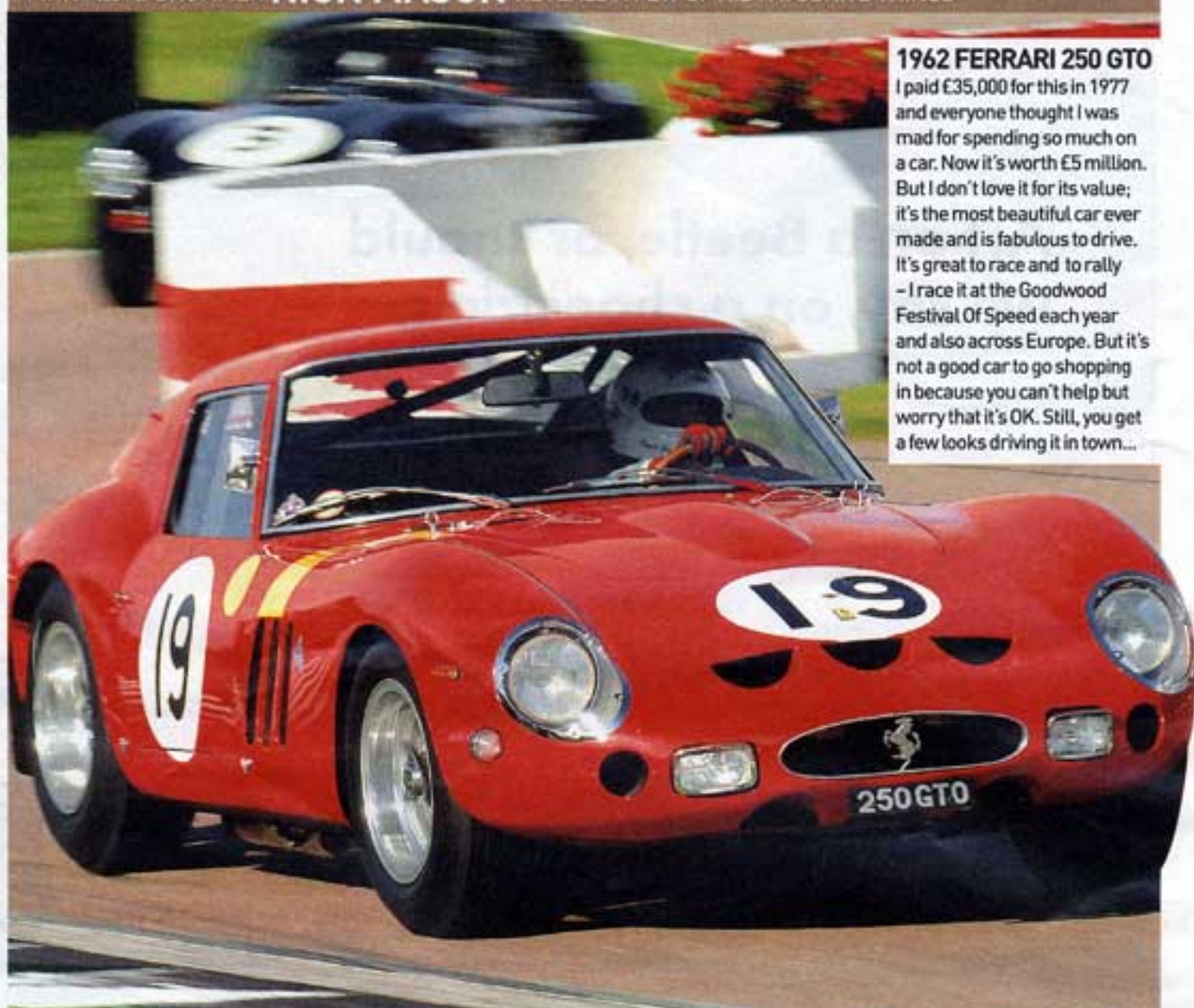
Mason has an enviable collection of more than 40 of the most desirable classic cars ever made, including a Maserati 250F, a McLaren F1 and one of only three 1953 V16 BRM MK2's in existence.

He hasn't given up the day job – drumming for one of the world's most successful bands ever, with 200 million album sales, is what pays the garage bills.

'I've got a huge amount of work commitments at the moment,' he explains. 'I'm touring with Roger Waters soon so I won't be able to race much. Still, I've got to pay for my cars somehow.'

It's a tough job, as they say, but someone's got to do it. ■

*Pink Floyd's live DVD 'Pulse' is out now, priced at £22*



## 1962 FERRARI 250 GTO

I paid £35,000 for this in 1977 and everyone thought I was mad for spending so much on a car. Now it's worth £5 million. But I don't love it for its value; it's the most beautiful car ever made and is fabulous to drive. It's great to race and to rally – I race it at the Goodwood Festival Of Speed each year and also across Europe. But it's not a good car to go shopping in because you can't help but worry that it's OK. Still, you get a few looks driving it in town...



## ↑ HONDA CB600F HORNET

I once bought a bike from a courier. It still had the firm's stickers on it so I'd leave it on a yellow line for days and not get a ticket – traffic wardens were more lenient back then. These days I ride a Honda Hornet (£5,249). I learnt to ride on an XL250, then upgraded to a 400/Four, but I've stuck with the Hornet for years. Even though I love driving cars I always use my bike in London.



## ↑ TOOLKIT

I drive a lot of classic cars, which have a habit of breaking down, so I always take a full toolkit to make repairs on the road. But I'm better at taking cars to pieces than putting them back together. My wife [actress Annette Lyrton], daughter [Holly] and I all raced at the Le Mans Classic in July. I had a disastrous time because the wheel bearing on my Ferrari Berlinetta Boxer broke, but they both finished in the top ten.



## ↑ STAND 21 AXV 3000 BOOTS

I first bought these racing shoes at Le Mans a couple of years ago. I've tried lots of driving boots but the Stand 21s (£165, stand21.co.uk) are the best that I've found. They're made from very soft leather and are very comfortable, plus they're flameproof, which is great if you accidentally drop a cigarette while driving. I get through quite a few pairs as I seem to work the pedals very hard when racing.



## ↑ SCHUBERTH RF1 HELMET

This is the same crash helmet that Ralf Schumacher uses in Formula One, although he gets through one a race because the dust takes the coating off the helmet when you're racing at 200mph. It's very hi-tech, very lightweight and is designed specifically for car racing because it works with the airflow of the car, which is really important in an open-top car.