



ON THE ROAD

Driving Adventures, Pleasures and Discoveries

by Peter Schindler

When I was asked to review Peter Schindler's self-published book, *On the Road*, I was told that it was not so much about cars but about the author's experiences of driving, so the disappointing fact that there were to be no references to TVRs was made a little more palatable.

Right from the introductory page it was clear that Peter Schindler is one of those rare people who feels no fear at the prospect of exposing his feelings. The book reflects a very personal journey from youth to adulthood, a journey based on his relationship not only with the many different cars that he has driven but, and far more importantly, the roads along which he has travelled.

"Driving always comes first.
Breathing comes a distant second."

There is a poetic quality to this writing, a gentle honesty which verges on vulnerability at times but always underlying there is a passion for driving that shines through. Peter has the ability to conjure up powerful images and I am certain that 90% of TVR owners will, like me, empathise totally with his observations, reflections and anecdotes. There is a romantic sub-plot that runs through the book. It is the story of Peter's relationship with his future wife and how they go about enabling her to enjoy his passion for, and style of, driving. There are lessons to be learnt here!

One of the advantages of self publication is that content and presentation are under your control. *On the Road* is not just words, it is also a collection of some of the most stunning images as well, photographs that make the reader want to go there, see that sight and drive the road. This book, in paperback form, is of high quality, it is well designed and has a reassuring feel to it. Having read it, I shall be reluctant to return it - it is the kind of book that is equally at home left on a coffee table or in a bookcase but wherever it is, it begs to be dipped into again and again.

When I turned the last page I was left with a feeling of reassurance, here was someone who has a true love of motoring, as Peter says "Driving always comes first. Breathing comes a distant second."

We will all soon be embarking on Christmas present buying and if like me, you sometimes struggle to find a suitable gift for someone who happens to have a passion for motoring and cars - or if you need some help in explaining your passion - I cannot recommend this book too highly.

Clive Westmacott