

# Cars of a certain age



JOHN GORDON

I am afraid that I have slightly cheated by including a car built after the critical year of 1974, the year in which *Newport News* began, but seeing it I was so bowled over by its beauty and rarity that I have bent the rules. I hope that you will agree that it was worth it.

First of all, a few words about Pepe. He was born in 1946 in Spain. Seeking to make his fortune he came to England in 1965 and after a number of different jobs he found himself working at Harlow hospital where he met Carmela, a young lady from Italy. They married in 1970 in Harlow, though they had their reception at Church House, Newport. That year they fulfilled a dream by buying Eddie Guile's Carnation nurseries, which I believe started in 1906. It consists of one acre, which originally grew carnations for Shortgrove Hall but in the last war had changed to tomatoes and cucumbers.

Pepe and Carmela worked hard and in 1984 were able to replace all the old wooden framed glass houses by steel ones and four years later changed from oil to coal for heating purposes. They doubled production and from then until 2009 they supplies supermarkets. However, upon their 'Retirement' that year they cut production to 20% and concentrated on local retail customers.

Having married in 1970 they first of all had a daughter, Patricia, born in 1972 who lives in Linton and works in London and is married with one daughter. In 1980 their son David appeared, who runs his excellent garage on the nursery premises and is married with two children and lives in Saffron Walden. In 1986 Pepe and Carmela moved to St. Leonard's Close which they had built and where they



PEPE CARRO WITH HIS 1978 FERRARI 308GTS

live happily.

All this while Pepe had a dream and followed the prices of classic cars and in 2002 found at last a possible project, a crashed 1978 Ferrari 308GTS. He went along to see it, bought it and then followed 10 years of work to get it up to scratch. It is now a beautiful, almost feline car, which gives him a lot of fun and enormous satisfaction having saved it for posterity. As Pepe said, "It's not a car for everyday motoring but for high days and holidays when it's wonderful". **NN**

#### APOLOGY

In the last issue I mistakenly put the owner's name of the Bond Bug as Robert Knight when of course it should have been Robert Andrews. This was entirely my fault and I am so sorry Robert.

**CLASSICS!** If you have a classic car, motorbike, van, lorry or bus (or any other kind of vehicle!), and would like to be featured in *Newport News*, please get in touch with John Gordon (542090).

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