



Classic Car Insurance™

News Release

For immediate release
28 July 2009

AND THE WINNER IS...?

Quirky, Cool and Classic - Hagerty's celebration of classic idiosyncrasy prompts UK probe

If there were prizes for expressions of individuality, classic and collector car owners would always rate high amongst the recipients.

But there are also those true 'Oscar' candidates, whose idiosyncrasies have prompted specialist insurer, Hagerty, to award its own gongs in celebration of the collector vehicle hobby, and the more extrovert of its brethren, in the USA.

For more than a decade, Hagerty Insurance has issued policies on some of the greatest and most valuable cars in the world. But from time to time they also receive requests that may prompt them to think: "*You'd like us to insure what?*"

"When we first set out to insure collector vehicles, we intentionally didn't want to discriminate and limit ourselves," says McKeel Hagerty, CEO. "But we never anticipated how broad the collector category really is, or how many unique and truly individual vehicles - and owners - there really are out there."

Armed with information received from its on-line trawl for unusual collector cars, Hagerty has pitched the following as its "Top Ten Quirkiest, Coolest and Most Unusual Collector Cars."

1. Wienermobile

Invented in 1936 by Carl Mayer, the “Wienermobile” was created to travel across the country as a “travelling billboard” to advertise the Oscar Meyer brand name of hot dogs and similar. Today, USA college graduates compete for the prestigious position of Hot Dogger so they can travel the nation to various events and promotions in the Wienermobile.

2. Pumpkin Chucker/Old Fire Truck

This vintage fire truck can shoot pumpkins 400 meters in any direction you point it. The 25-foot long barrel makes garaging an issue, but it certainly keeps unwanted trespassers at bay.

3. The Big Red Phone car

This 1975 VW Beetle was transformed into exactly what it’s called – a big, red telephone on wheels. Complete with a keypad, receiver and matching owner/mascot, this car is not easy to miss.

4. Star Wars Land Speeder

Used by Lucas Films, the hovering vehicle made its first appearance during ‘*Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope*’. The dirty, beat up land speeder was Luke Skywalker’s alternate mode of transport when his T-16 Skyhopper was in the repair shop.

5. Cinderella’s Carriage

This carriage evolved from a mere pumpkin and was hauled by a couple of mice-turned-horses. Pretty unbelievable you say? Well, it happened and it needed insurance, so Hagerty gave it the best coverage a budding princess would ever desire. There’s no word on whether elusive glass slipper coverage is next on their list.

6. Corvette Station Wagon

What do you get when you cross a truly iconic American sports car with a grocery getter? Apparently, you get what is most commonly referred to as a 1954 'Commemorative Sport Wagon'. Quite the oxymoron, but a conversation starter.

7. Panzer tank

Think you feel safe in your sports utility? This German military vehicle can only hit up to 25 mph even on the flattest surfaces, but you'll never have the problem of getting stuck in traffic, and there's plenty of room for shopping.

8. Velorex Oskar 3-wheel car

This three-wheel, vinyl-covered mini-car from the Czech Republic enjoyed quite a production run, from 1953 to 1971, in a town named Hradec Kralove.

9. 1985 Owosso Pulse

This futuristic looking vehicle is one of just 347 Pulses ever built. The "Autocycle," as it's commonly referred to, appeared in the film *Back To the Future Part II*.

10. 1974 Dodge Clown Car

Want to stand out in your street? Park this in your driveway.

Commenting on the selection, Angus Forsyth, MD of UK subsidiary, Hagerty International, mused; "These results beg the question as to whether British collector car owners can out-do our American counterparts in terms of idiosyncrasy!"

Throwing down the gauntlet, Forsyth added: "We'll be happy to hear from anyone who is, or knows of an owner of a particularly unusual collector vehicle, to add to our own candidates amongst our client base, and we will then publish our UK Top

Ten.”

Submissions should be e-mailed, with a photograph of the vehicle and brief description, to hotline@hagertyinsurance.co.uk.

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For further press information on Hagerty International, and comment on the Classic and Collector Car market sector, plus further high-resolution images, please contact:

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About Hagerty:

- Founded in the USA in 1983, initially to provide speciality insurance to classic boat enthusiasts, parent company, Hagerty Insurance, launched its service for car collectors in 1991, and is now the largest classic and collector car insurance specialist in the USA and beyond.
- UK-based subsidiary, Hagerty International, was established in 2006 to cater for the parallel market sector in the UK and Europe, and now offers a bespoke portfolio of insurance products, underwritten by Allianz.
- Hagerty has built a robust and buoyant reputation for matching its clients' passion for classic vehicles, underlined in their belief that classic and collector cars are *'fun cars that you own because you desire them, not because you need them'*.

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