

open road



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WINNER – BEST EDITORIAL ISSUES CAMPAIGN

engine room

Citroën's work of art



Citroën has revealed a never-seen-before Picasso – its new C4 Picasso – the French manufacturer's take on a people mover. It is said to mirror the artist's unique approach to life and the world – but don't worry the doorhandles aren't wheels and the wheels aren't seats!

The C4 Picasso is based on the Citroën C4 and initially you may not pick up the subtle differences. Take a closer look and you'll see some differences in style. The Picasso features a panoramic glass windscreen

and a vast modular cabin that offers better visibility when driving – Citroën calls this the car's 'visiospace'.

Citroën says its focus in the passenger compartment is on quality, with high standards of interior comfort for all passengers.

It also claims that the Picasso will offer fuel consumption figures similar to those of a small hatchback yet offer the space and versatility of a four-wheel drive.

Citroën's Picasso is due to go on sale here early in 2007.

Home for the holidays

Many people go on holidays only to find their car has lost its vroom when they return. To avoid the problems that come with an idle car, follow these simple tips.

- ✓ Remove everything from your car, especially food!
- ✓ Wash and wax your car.
- ✓ Take it for a final spin and apply the brakes often to help dry them.
- ✓ Park it on level ground. If you plan to be away for one to six months put your car in park (or in gear if it's a manual), chock the wheels, leave the handbrake off, block the air intake with a clean rag and block the exhaust pipe (when it cools down) with a rag.
- ✓ Change your engine oil and oil filter if it will be more than six months (three months for diesel vehicles) between the last change and when you get back, and change the engine coolant if it will be

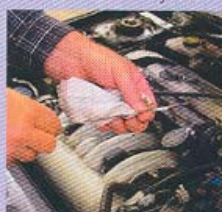
longer than two years since the last change and when you get back.

- ✓ Only disconnect the battery if you are storing your vehicle for more than four weeks; it won't stop it from going flat though. Refer to your owners manual before you do this.
- ✓ Increase the tyre pressure slightly to compensate for normal air loss.
- ✓ Protect the paint by draping a large cloth over your car.

On your return, check and top up the battery, coolant, brake fluid and oil. Check tyre pressures and clean the windscreen and wiper blades. Ensure your brakes still work and take the car for a spin. A service and safety check is also a good idea.

If you don't have a safe place to

store your car, try Pyrmont Car Store. It'll store your car in its security lock-up and start, run and service it while you're away. Visit www.allcarstorage.com.au.



New Captiva could be yours

Holden's new entrant into the medium SUV sector, the Captiva, got the thumbs up from our road testers who singled out the great ride, handling and room.

Holden's development in NVH (noise, vibration and harshness) and ride has paid off. Across corrugated dirt roads, the suspension absorbed all of the bumps with minimal intrusion into the cabin and the Captiva showed nimble handling off road.

The list of features is impressive: aircon, 17-inch alloys, cruise control, power windows, and four-speaker sound system with single CD/MP3 player. The Captiva also comes with a range of safety features, including dual front airbags, curtain airbags (optional on base SX model), front seatbelt pretensioners with load limiters, ABS brakes with Electronic Stability Program, Descent



Control and Active Rollover Protection. Captivated? Then turn to page 49 for your chance to win an all-new Holden Captiva LX.

Poetic licence

We sometimes have a chuckle at the way car manufacturers describe their vehicles. Take this one from Mazda, which recently revealed its new concept car, Nagare, at the Los Angeles International Auto Show. Mazda described it as "an evolving expression of Zoom-Zoom". It then went on to say, "Inspired by the movement of nature's elements, [Nagare's] designers have captured motion, energy and lightness, translating into a beautiful language of lines and forms that are powerful yet effortless, provocative yet strikingly seductive." But does it have aircon?



Lost and found

Need a part for your car? Couldn't be bothered scouring the wreckers for it? Then, get online.

If you're an auto mechanic, or have mechanical nous and like to tinker with cars, you'll find www.findapart.com.au a valuable resource. Find new, used or reconditioned parts at the click of a mouse. You may even save money, as recycled parts are often 30–50% cheaper than new parts.

Simply provide details of the part you want; it'll then be matched with dealers

and dismantlers who are listed in the database as supplying those parts. An

email is then sent to them, and they will respond directly to your parts enquiry with prices, quotes and availability. With a database of over 450 wreckers across Australia and New Zealand, you're sure to find the part you need. Visit www.findapart.com.au.



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