



GAME OF THE MONTH
IRACING

Right, so I'm addicted and I don't care who knows it. The world of iRacing just keeps getting better. By the time you read this, the Lotus 79 F1 car will be in the game. It's at a high license level, so it'll be months before rookies can drive it, but Mario Andretti had a hand in developing it, and iRacing replicate cars as accurately as it's possible to do it. So... it'll be a 79, then.

Oulton Park and Brands Hatch have been scanned and will be online at the beginning of next year, along with Zandvoort, and other

new cars are on the way including the Ford GT40.

For those bizarre people who don't read this section slavishly every month, iRacing is a downloadable online-only programme for PC and PC-enabled Macs. It's a simulation, not a game, and it's HARD. Still, as the character William Thomas2, I have nobly ploughed a path of glory to 307th in the world, a not-lofty position which I'm unlikely to ever improve on. If you love driving sims and you haven't tried iRacing.com, I declare you to be a loony. BT



Developer: iRacing.com
Publisher: Motorsport Simulations LLC
Format: PC, Mac
Price: from £11 per month or £95 a year
Rating: 19/20
Out: Now



If you whipped Bill in a race recently, write in and tell us

This month we're auctioning a super swanky shoe cleaning kit we were given on the Panamera launch. You get a variety of brushes and polishes, and it all comes in a presentation box. Go to topgear.com/car-news/freebay to make a bid.

LAST MONTH: The Ferrari loves went for £93! As usual, the lot went to Children in Need

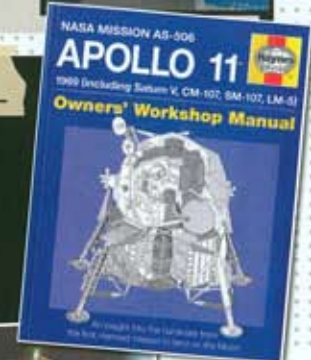
DVD OF THE MONTH

FAST AND FURIOUS
The fact that you've seen all of this before is actually the settling point of Fast and Furious. Vin Diesel and Paul Walker - stars of the original The Fast and The Furious - reunite to avenge the death of a mutual friend. Cue more car chases, hot girls and a bit of brawling as the pair try to befriend a baddie who apparently needs drivers - but well, sort of doesn't. Sadly, whereas the original was gritty good fun, the whole premise of that has been sullied by the appalling follow-ups. This movie now serves as a reminder why neither star has gone on to much since, and the overriding feeling throughout is that they're both in it just to try and restart their careers. Car wise there's enough metal to keep you amused, but the chases are now far too CG'd to be believable. They should've left it well alone. JH
Publisher: Universal
Price: £19.99



BOOK OF THE MONTH

APOLLO 11: OWNERS' WORKSHOP MANUAL
The scale of the Apollo achievement becomes more staggering as each year passes. This Haynes 'manual' revels in the technological aspects of how it was done. For example, any mechanic keen to build his own Saturn V rocket would need to familiarise himself with about three million working parts. Spannering in order, he could expect 160million horsepower of thrust when it's fired up, culminating in extraterrestrial speeds approaching 25,000mph. More mind-boggling figures? 480,000 - the number of miles to make a round-trip to the moon; 400,000 - the number of people involved; \$135billion - the cost in today's money. So it goes on... Among the most absorbing aspects of the book are the engineering diagrams. Even those of us who struggle to figure out how cutlery works can draw pleasure from marvelling at the sheer intricacy and ingenuity of something as seemingly prosaic as the 'Environmental Control System'. Add a comprehensive archive of photos, and this book captures the nuts and bolts (and helium isolation valves) of a feat so monumental we're still shaking our heads in disbelief 40 years on. RB
Publisher: Haynes
Price: £17.99



Apollo - a Knights Templar conspiracy? Are lizards in fact our overlords?