



Audi Quattro (Rally Giants)

By Graham Robson

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The Audi Quattro is a Rally Giant because it was the first - not the most sophisticated, but the first and very successful too - to combine four-wheel-drive, and a turbocharged engine. It was the first to run with more than 300bhp. Because it was re-homologated/transformed from Group 4 into Group B in 1983, it was also the first successful Group B car. The Quattro dominated rallying from the start of 1981 until late 1984 (when the Peugeot 205 T16 took over). Quattro's won no fewer than 23 World rallies from 1981 to 1985 won the Makes Championship in 1982 and 1984, and drivers Hannu Mikkola (1983) and Stig Blomqvist (1984) also won the World Drivers' series in Quattro's. The Quattro dominated the World and European rally scene in the first half of the 1980s.

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Audi Quattro (Rally Giants) By Graham Robson Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

Review from Octane, July 2008

UK magazine

The latest two softbacks from Veloce are part of a series by Robson that will cover 16 of the most important rally cars of the last half-century. Each runs to 120-odd pages and boasts straightforwardly written, authoritative text and a large number of colour and b&w pictures. Besides the chronological history there are interesting sidebar digressions - did you know Roger Clark's 'Cossack' Escort had eight different liveries in ten events?!

Club News, Summer 2008

Newsletter for the Volkswagen Owners Club GB

This is a very well written and illustrated book that traces the Audi Quattro – a rally giant – through all its stages of development and rallying history. It starts at the very beginning with the inspiration for the car – deep thinking by one Dipl Engineer Jorg Benzinger – and the development that took it to a world beating rally car. Each and every section – of which there are many within this book's 120 plus pages – brings to light both interesting facts and anecdotes. One sections covers personalities and star drivers but, sorry to say, nothing about co-drivers.

This book is a very detailed account of what happened and when and has numerous illustrations in both full colour and black and white and I would think is a must for anyone with the slightest interest in rallying and the development of rally cars. Some of the final pages cover the victories achieved by works and supported cars – of which there are many – in both World and European rallies. If you have anyone in the family interested in rallying I would suggest this book would make a most welcome present. While I appreciate that this book is about an Audi and we are a Volkswagen club the two marques are so intertwined that I could not let this 'history' book pass by without a review in Club News.

Track & Race Cars magazine, August 2008

UK magazine

The Audi Quattro changed rallying by 'nagging' the authorities to change the rules so they could use the four-wheel drive car. Once the rules were changed Audi brought success and showed the dominance of four-wheel drive. The book delves into the first ideas for the Audi right through to its successes at World Rally. The design of the car is well detailed, with insights into the engine and engineering of the car. As well as the star drivers over the years and the second half of the book details its competition years. Another good book from the 'Rally Giants' series. -

Review from Old Stager, June 2008

UK magazine

Another in the 'Rally Giants' volume, this covers the Group 4, Group B, Sport and Sport 1 evolutions of the ground-breaking 4x4 rallycar. Graham Robson once again provides a cracking read of the period during the

eighties when the Quattros with their distinctive five-cylinder 'blat' were all but invincible ... as ever in motorsport, there can be no such thing as 'invincible', particularly when the fundamental design is slightly flawed by having a heavy engine slung out in front of the front axle. The Lancia 037 was superior on dry tarmac. However, drivers such as Hannu Mikkola, Stig Blomqvist, Walter Rohrl and Michéle Mouton all revelled in the turbo-charged car's fabulous traction - before joining Audi, Rohl once said that "even a monkey could win in a Quattro" ... then he too signed up to pilot the ground-breaking machine!

New Zealand Classic Car, January 2009
NZ magazine

The very productive Robson continues his enjoyable 'Rally Giants' series with these latest offerings on two of the iconic rally cars from the last 30 years. Both titles are in the same, now familiar format: 128-page soft cover books with plenty of fine photos. But the cars themselves certainly are very different: it's easy to forget the impact the quattro had when it was introduced, while the Escort started off looking like a pretty standard family car! The two models didn't quite coincide on the world rally scene as the Escort's days at the top ran from 1975-'81, while the quattro was one of the top dogs from 1981-'86. But they won rallies and titles aplenty, and it's fascinating to follow their rallying exploits. Both books chart the development of the cars; their drivers, from Clark and Vatanen to Mikkola and Blomqvist, plus all the others behind their many successes; the competition they faced, and lovely little snippets like registration numbers and the occasional blind alley.

Speedscene, October 2008
The magazine of the Hillclimb and Sprint Association

The industrious Graham Robson's book on the Peugeot 205 T16 was reviewed in Speedscene 146 and here are two more in the on-going series of Veloce's 'Rally Giants' series. Equally informative, as one would expect from the author with such a worldwide reputation as a motoring historian— fueled by his parallel career as a competitor, team manager, organizer, reporter and commentator (not to mention National Motor Club Quiz chairman, as this reviewer remembers, having been on the HSA's losing semi-final team in a Ford-sponsored series some years ago!) – these books cover the development and competition careers of two iconic rallying legends of the seventies and eighties. The Cosworth 16-valve BD engined Mk2 Escorts were arguably the most consistently versatile and successful rally car of all in the second half of the seventies, while the Audi Quattro was the first 300bhp plus World Rally car and the first to combine 4WD with a turbocharged engine, which brought new standards to the sport in the early years of the eighties. Their histories have been documented before, but Robson's compact and informative series or Veloce provides an ideal reference.

About the Author

Graham Robson possesses a world-wide reputation as a motoring historian, and has been close to the sport of rallying for many years. Not only as a competitor, team manager, organizer, reporter, commentator and observer, but above all as an enthusiastic historian, in more than forty years he has never lost touch with the sport. His experience of rallying is worldwide. Not only has he competed in many British and European events, but reported on marathons in South America, and acted as a traveling controller in the legendary London-Mexico World Cup rally. As a recognized authority on many aspects of classic cars and motoring of that period, he is the most prolific of all authors, with more than 130 published books to his credit. Over the years he has owned, driven, described and competed in many of the cars featured in this landmark Rally

Giants series, and his insight into their merits is unmatched.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Helen Wright:

Have you spare time for just a day? What do you do when you have much more or little spare time? Yep, you can choose the suitable activity regarding spend your time. Any person spent all their spare time to take a go walking, shopping, or went to often the Mall. How about open or read a book eligible Audi Quattro (Rally Giants)? Maybe it is to be best activity for you. You already know beside you can spend your time together with your favorite's book, you can more intelligent than before. Do you agree with their opinion or you have other opinion?

Stephen Hill:

This Audi Quattro (Rally Giants) book is simply not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is actually information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper a person read a lot of information you will get. This specific Audi Quattro (Rally Giants) without we comprehend teach the one who reading through it become critical in contemplating and analyzing. Don't possibly be worry Audi Quattro (Rally Giants) can bring when you are and not make your carrier space or bookshelves' come to be full because you can have it within your lovely laptop even mobile phone. This Audi Quattro (Rally Giants) having fine arrangement in word and also layout, so you will not really feel uninterested in reading.

Kurt Rose:

Precisely why? Because this Audi Quattro (Rally Giants) is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap this but latter it will jolt you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who have write the book in such incredible way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any longer or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of gains than the other book include such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I were being you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

Todd Apperson:

Audi Quattro (Rally Giants) can be one of your basic books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort that will put every word into delight arrangement in writing Audi Quattro (Rally Giants) nevertheless doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource data that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information may drawn you into new stage of

crucial imagining.

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