

TGP in UK: **Mini Countryman**



BBC
Top Gear
P H I L I P P I N E S

P175 SEPTEMBER 2017
www.topgear.com.ph



Mercedes-AMG all day:
We drive the lot in Sepang

Goodbye to the AUV:
Shed a tear for the Crosswind

TGP's 13th anniversary:
Get to know the batch of 2017

All-new Honda CR-V

Diesel

Destiny

Honda enters the war for oil-burner supremacy. **It's about damn time!**



Contents



Brand Index

- 74 Aston Martin
- 16, 19, 74 Audi
- 48, 60, 74 BMW
- 42, 75 Chevrolet
- 75, 80 Ferrari
- 75 Ford
- 75 Foton
- 43, 53, 75, 85, 91, 92, 116 Honda
- 44, 75, 91 Hyundai
- 64, 76 Isuzu
- 9 Jaguar
- 76 Jeep
- 40, 76, 109 Kia
- 77 Lexus
- 102 Mahindra
- 76 Mazda
- 68, 77 Mercedes-Benz
- 49, 71, 77 Mini
- 64, 91, 77 Mitsubishi
- 78 Nissan
- 78 Peugeot
- 79 SsangYong
- 78 Subaru
- 79 Suzuki
- 79, 100, 104 Toyota
- 12, 37, 79 Volkswagen
- 79 Volvo



109

New Metal

09 Wild Project 8
A track-focused road car from Jaguar? Sign us up!

12 Polo GTI
This VW has a bigger engine than its predecessor.

14 Heavy Metal
Wondering what a Merc pickup would look like?

16 R8 goes topless
All the tech and toys inside the German sports car.

Car Culture

19 Class of 2017
Behind the *Top Gear PH* magazine and website.

26 The Perfect Car
For those who leave their lives up to luck and lotto.

28 (Not) Car Club
They're just dudes who enjoy the rotary engine.

32 Gearhead
He leads one of the largest car dealership networks.

Shakedown

37 Volkswagen Tiguan
40 Kia Rio
42 Chevrolet Trax
43 Honda Civic
48 BMW X1 vs. Mini Countryman

Moto Sapiens

85 Honda CB1300
A solid two-wheeler ride with a classic design.

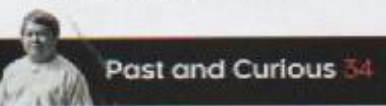
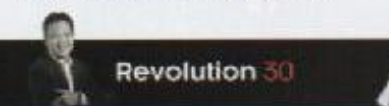
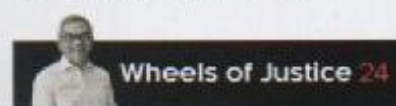
The Garage

90 WC/RC
A dentist needs her first daily-driven car.

92 Used Car
In the market for the outgoing Honda CR-V?

100 Old School
Classic Toyotas have a special place in our hearts.

104 Mod Rides
Now here's what a Fun Cruiser looks like.



Contents

TG
13
YEARS

53



60



64



53 **Calm before the storm**

After all the rumors and teasers, the new Honda CR-V is finally here.

60 **BMW X1 in Subic**

A Bimmer and a yacht; now that's the ultimate driving experience.

64 **Au revoir, AUV**

We're feeling nostalgic and a tad bit sentimental saying goodbye.



Time really does fly. Who would have thought that we would witness the end of the AUV era? With the shift to the Euro 4 emission standard, the Isuzu Crosswind and

Mitsubishi Adventure will cease production soon. We do feel a bit nostalgic, of course. These two models are pillars of the local auto industry, and it is sad to see them go.

But there's a ray of light in the form of the diesel-powered Honda CR-V that you see on our cover this month. The paradigm shift was bound to happen locally, and we are fortunate to have been given a first crack at driving this baby. The ebb and flow of the local automotive industry is indeed captivating, and this title has been around long enough to document almost all of it.

Top Gear PH is now 13 years old. Among the current editorial team lineup, the Loyalty Award has to go to online executive editor

Dinzo Tabamo. He's been part of the full-time staff since issue number one, and like I've already said before, his writing skills are still as sharp as ever. It's only fitting that he penned the '*Top Gear PH* Class of 2017' story, because he's seen it all. The photo shoot was done between two Audi R8s at the PGA Cars showroom in Bonifacio Global City. We were honored to be welcomed there as guests.

If there is one thing that we are proud of, it's that *Top Gear PH* isn't a revolving door where staffers come and go. We are all in it for the long haul, and that says a lot about Summit Media, the publishing house that has been *Top Gear PH*'s home since day one. The formidable support that our title gets ensures that we will be around in the years to come. As the automotive landscape evolves, expect to be in the front seat, witnessing it all through us.

But we, the staff, can't really pat ourselves on the back, because the truth of the matter is, we wouldn't be here this long if not for you—our readers and partners. We really have you guys to thank for this awesome ride.

Paulo Rafael T. Subido

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

paulo.subido@summitmedia.com.ph