

COURTENAY AT 25

NOVA SPORT

Almost as much a part of Courtenay's history as Jon Sheild's C20LET-powered green Nova, Simon's 1986 Sport was built by Courtenay for use on Top Gear by husky-voiced car bird Vicki Butler-Henderson. Featuring a high-compression 20XE, Coscast head, LET block, 45 mm Weber Alpha throttle bodies, Quaife differential, Bilstein Nova Cup dampers, Astra GTE 16-valve brakes and 6x15 inch Racelines, it's almost unchanged since Jon sold it to Simon in 2002.

Simon says, 'It's now got different seats, I couldn't afford the Quaife gearbox and I got it restickered with blue graphics. Now it's very much enjoyed for weekends and the occasional track day - it's done 4500 miles since I bought it.' Something tells us though that this car's Courtenay connection is not over. Jon still keeps its standard parts in storage and you can't keep him away from a good Sport.



2.0 CIH turbo Manta has graced the pages of TV before.



VECTRA GSI

At first glance all you'll notice are the Corsa VXR wheels. You probably can't tell this is one of the country's finest Vectra Bs, incorporating all the best production bits and Challenge racer goodies to create the car Vauxhall should have built. Needless to say, Courtenay were heavily involved in the conversion, swapping the car's standard, anoying 2.6 power plant for the muscular 3.2, along with six-speed gearbox, AP Racing diff, Challenge solid rear subframe, Tarox 6-pots, 330 mm discs, Bilsteins, Challenge fuel tank and Mitsubishi Evo seats. Owner Colin comments, 'I've had this car from new and Courtenay have done most of the work. They're the only people I trust, to be quite honest.'

