

NEWSLINES

AUTOHOMES EXPORTS TO JAPAN

Autohomes (UK) Ltd of Poole, who are currently producing around 1500 motorcaravans per annum, have recently commenced exports to Japan. According to Financial Director, Tony Graves, "The Japanese market for motorcaravans is just starting to open up and the British vehicles appeal because of their compact size when compared to American motorhomes and the right hand drive."

(One can't help wondering how long it will be before the trade starts flowing in the opposite direction, especially with news of Winnebago's export of the compact Le Sharo to that part of the world. Ed.)

Autohomes go from strength to strength with export arrangements already in operation from Poole to Germany, Holland, Belgium, Austria, Norway and Sweden.

Impressive are the figures achieved in February this year of the 1000th Bedford Bambi, the 1000th Talbot/Fiat Camelot and the 500th Fiat/Talbot Highwayman.

NEW COACHBUILT MOTORCARAVAN AT THE 1989 RICHARD HOLDSWORTH OPEN WEEKEND

As the originator of the open weekend idea, Holdsworths have been running their annual shenanigan practically since the dawning of motorcaravans. This year in addition to donkey rides for the tinies and guided tours of the plant, plus masses of campers, there will be the unveiling of RH's new generation Ranger coachbuilt motorcaravan.

It's an open secret that Richard himself is a 'railway freak' and the name Ranger for the new vehicle is inherited from the Western Ranger loco. When not thinking up ideas for new motorcaravans Richard can often be found on the footplate of a said Ranger diesel. Oops, nearly forgot the dates, which are 1st/2nd April and the times 10am to 4pm.

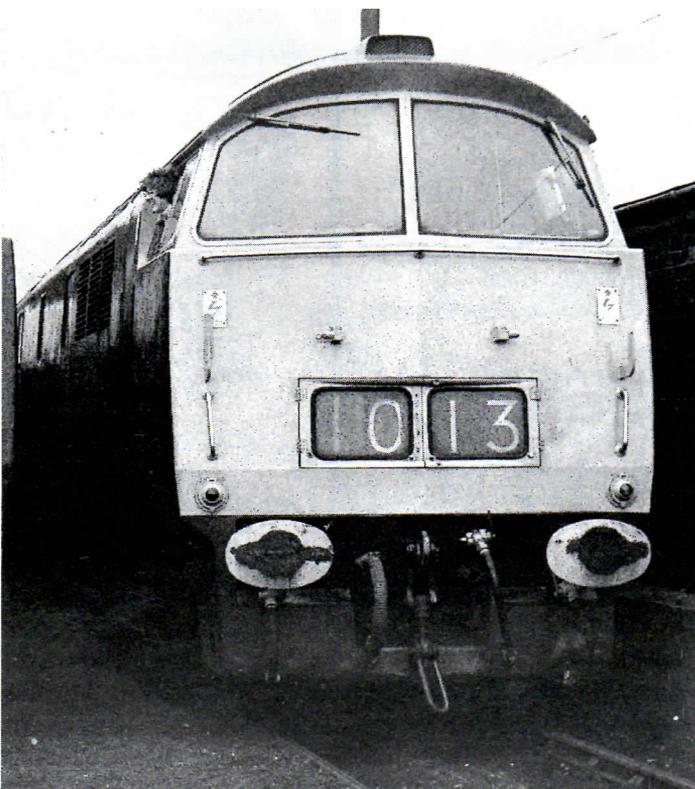
To many people, Western Ranger is just a diesel locomotive — but to the enthusiast it's a very powerful, highly sophisticated piece of machinery. Two V12 turbo-powered diesel engines with hydraulic transmission hide beneath the sleek exterior . . .



The Autohomes factory at Poole.



The Brownhills line up with the Le Sharo in the vanguard.



STOP PRESS

Winnebago's compact Le Sharo model is now stocked by Brownhills of Newark who will also handle the UK marketing for it. The only other stockist for the Le Sharo is Priory Motors of Lechlade. Eriba Ltd, also at the Lechlade address, are not involved with either the Winnebago product or the Odyssey from California, another motorcaravan under the Priory Motors banner.

For Brownhills the Le Sharo is one of a range of USA motorhomes now on display at the Newark display ground which, with around 200 vehicles on view, must be one of the biggest — or, indeed, may be the biggest — selection of motorcaravans on show at any dealer's premises in Europe.