

**They're the ultimate show-off boy racer's toy – and all Simon de Burton wants for Christmas.**

# THE QUAD SQUAD

If you think that quad bikes are for farmers and trikes are for children then it would appear that you are not up to speed with the latest in vehicular playthings: high-performance, road-going quads and trikes that can out-accelerate a Bentley and cost as much as a decent sports car are becoming all the rage with thrill-seekers who can afford to keep one in the garage for nothing but fun.

Some people say a luxury item is a frippery which one can very easily live without – in which case, machines such as the GG Quad, the Grinnall R3T trike and the Can-Am Spyder are luxurious indeed, because not only can you live without them but they demonstrate their frivolity by successfully contriving to combine the disadvantages of a car with the disadvantages of a motorcycle in being too big to cut through traffic and failing to keep you dry when it rains.

Yet I don't believe I've ever ridden or driven a machine that has attracted such

attention and admiration as the GG Quad which we had on loan in the interests of research for this article. Put it this way, I can count on the toes of one hand the number of times in the past when a nubile blonde has eyed me up at the traffic lights before purring: "I want it!" – but that's the type of reaction the GG seemed to evoke. During one short day, I was asked for a pillion ride by an elderly lady, photographed by five different camera phones on the M4 motorway and offered "£15 grand cash" outside a rather up-market Chelsea pub.

The unsolicited bidder was left both disappointed and surprised when I told him that the GG wasn't mine to sell and that his offer represented less than half of the machine's retail price. But a closer look convinced him that the £24,900 cost of the basic model (without the £10,000 worth of extras fitted to the one on test) was probably fair enough.



**Top:** Bombardier's Can-Am Spyder trike, about £8,000, has two wheels at the front. **Above:** the GG Quad, from £24,900, has a top speed of 117mph.