

Nissan Figaro Owners Club

EDITION #002 JUNE 2015

Figgyworld

QUARTERLY
MAGAZINE

A FIGARO LIKE
NO OTHER

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&

NISSAN FIGARO 25th
BIRTHDAY PARTY

PAGE 16

&

FIGARO
MASTERCLASS

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**MEMBER
INTERVIEW**

Belinda Wanless car
parked during our 2012
Jersey Rally

**SEE
PAGE 08**



12 Members Cars in all their glory

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MESSAGE FROM KEVIN

EDITOR: Kevin Fagan EMAIL: sales@figarownersclub.com

If you build it they will come...

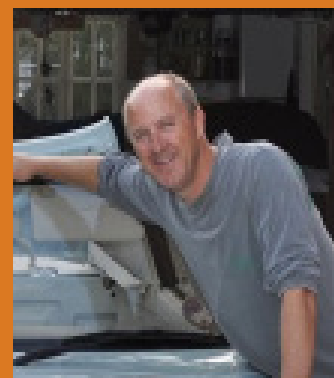
Welcome to our second edition of Figgyworld. As you read this, Sue and I will be busy packing for the Scotland Figaro Rally. My task is to prepare poor 'Belle' for what I'm sure will be a shock to her system as I calculate the rally will be a 2,000 mile round trip. Like most of us, I don't really like putting excessive annual mileage on our Figaro but then I figure the fun we have going on these trips far outweigh this logic, and anyway who knows what's round the corner. I just know how we'll both be feeling participating in a convoy of 30 figs snaking our way along some of the world's most spectacular roads towards Pitlochry and creating memories that will last a lifetime.

Included in this edition is a real gem from member Brian Akre

who managed to get a personal interview with Jun Shimizu, who was Senior Manager of Design, and Divisional General Manager of Design at Nissan in the late 1980s when the Figaro was in production. His reply to Brian's question regarding the original thinking behind the Figaro's design made me chuckle as it sums up so many of our members. He said *"The initial image of "nostalgia" was like this – opening the top of a Datsun Roadster, with a young lady in 1930s "Art-Deco" fashion, sitting in the rear seat wearing a hat with a parasol in her hand – a very classical and elegant feeling. Then we set the "modern" in the 1950-1960 era when car design was at its showiest. That's what the original idea of the Figaro was"*. Brilliant or what!

Ever get that sinking feeling when you get in your car? Someone told me to replace the seat foam so this is the next job, in addition to refurbishing the rear view mirror glass which has unsightly marks around the edge. I'm fixing this with a stick-on ebay sourced mirror solution. Full report in our July Newsletter.

There's an old saying that 'if you build it they will come' and I very much hope the 25th Birthday Party Weekend confirms this. Up until now its all been planned on a wild hunch from me that members will want to bring their Figaro to a truly one-off event, in the summer, on a Sunday, at a stunning location, smack bang in the centre of the UK. Its a crazy notion but I really think if we all get behind this event and spread



the word we could get 400 cars on the day, why not? We have well over 1200 members in the UK so that's only 1 in 3 right? Well I can always dream...

Roof down and warm days. Catch you next month.

Kevin

PS - Do you like Belgian Chocolate? We've just released a (provisional) Belgium Figaro Rally 2016 - See page 13 for more info

NEXT EDITION - SEPTEMBER DEADLINE 10TH AUGUST!

Club Websites

Published by Figaro Owners Club, 58 Earl Howe Road, Holmer Green, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP15 6QT, ENGLAND.

Figaro Owners Club

Extensive information for current and future owners including events, gallery, products & services etc.
www.figarownersclub.com

Technical Forum

Over 20,000 technical and ownership posts including technical manuals, guides & information A-Z ownership issues etc.
www.figarownersclubforum.com

Buyers Guide

Comprehensive Online publication to inspecting, test driving and buying the Nissan Figaro.
www.nissanfigarobuyersguide.com

Figaro Trader

100% dedicated website for buying and selling Nissan Figaro Cars, Parts & Accessories. Sell your car from £10 or a Part/Accessory for just £5.
www.figarotrader.co.uk

Figaro Store

Our club shop includes Figaro Owners Club T-Shirts, mugs, stickers and more. In addition it features the latest Nissan Figaro Apparel & Accessories. Choose from a wide variety of our official Nissan Figaro clothing for both Men, Women, Children and even Pets!
www.cafepress.com/thefigarostore

NEWS - COVER STORY - MASTERCLASS - MEMBERS GALLERY - OWNER WORKSHOP - FEATURE ARTICLES - EVENTS - DIRECTORY



A FIGARO LIKE NO OTHER

Member Kelly Southgate talks to *Figgyworld* about a rather special car called 'Doug'

As you can probably tell from the photographs I am a Figaro super fan. My love affair began very many years ago and I bought my first Figaro in January 2004. Loved that car the minute I bought it, I even had it re-sprayed entirely black with a black roof for my wedding. It broke down many times and each time my dad fixed it up, even when I blew 3 out of 4 of the pistons and had to have them re-bored. I loved that car it became massively sentimental and more than a travel system from A to B. I was absolutely shattered when it was written off by a drunk driver.

I decided to buy a new Figaro and make it even better than before.. I planned everything meticulously down to the smallest detail. I stripped the interior panels, steering wheel, centre console, handbrake, everything I could from my previous car. It was important to me that there was no cream whatsoever left in my car. This even meant changing the door seals. As well as that I wanted the car as monochrome as possible meaning that I had to change the lights. I knew it would be, and it was, a lot of work.

I started by stripping the chrome from all of the light surrounds. This was a tedious task that took several weeks to complete. I peeled off each bit of chrome in tiny cm by cm pieces until the entire light surrounds were back to the base plastic.

When it came to the car panels and other interior items it took a lot of trial and error to find a paint that worked and would provide longevity. There were several painting and stripping attempts before I decided on the paint I wanted to use, I then applied several layers of paint to get the look I wanted.

I used STR Vehicle wrap in Croydon to wrap the car in semi matt wrap and they worked with me on the design. I decided that I wanted the line slightly off centre as a design feature. After speaking to quite a few vehicle wrappers I decided to go with Sean at STR as he really appeared to understand my design ideas and the love I have for my Figaro. They even wrapped the front light surrounds and polo's for me! They were really cool and seemed in touch with my vision for the car. I couldn't recommend them highly enough... continue on page 7 >



Labour of Love

It took Kelly hours to strip the chrome from the light surrounds but the result of black on white & white on black is stunning!

"I think its a marmite figaro, some will love and some will hate it, but its just how I wanted it so I am over the moon"





Attention to detail
The black & white divide carries on inside the cabin with the upholstery, dashboard, CD, steering wheel & centre console



Note the black and white Mudflaps
The mudflaps were customised and rear light surrounds complete the striking looks from the rear of the car

> From page 4 Next it was on to the interior. I had decided on Cass Bro's in Bromley to re-upholster the seats, make me a new roof outside as well as recover the dash. We have used them in the past and we know they are good at what they do so that decision was a given.

After the wrap was finished I dropped the car off to Gary at Cass Bro's for the roof and upholstery. The seats are entirely leather and no vinyl as I wanted longevity. I went home and carried on with the interior panels etc. Getting a perfect line in the interior of the car was tricky but with some planning my husband and I managed to make it work by matching the newly upholstered dash top and interior roof to the back panel and seat. Once I picked the car up from Gary I couldn't have been happier, he had done a stunning job and the matching of the roof line to the wrap was spot on. The interior roof cover was the perfect extra touch and I was even more impressed than I already knew I would be with Gary's work.

After that it was time to put the newly painted panels, dash front etc. back in the car (after filling all the cavities with waxoyl). Some of the paint got scratched along the way but nothing a small amount of touching up would not fix! I fitted the new seatbelts (black next to a white seat and white next to a black seat with opposite colour receivers) first, then the panels and other essential parts. The last thing to go back in was the handbrake and centre console.

The rear lights were custom made to keep with the monochromatic look of the car as were the window switches. My husband bought me custom coloured mud flaps to match my design and even the tyre dust caps are colour coded; white on the black side of the car and black on the white side of the car. Clarion even helped out when I had the radio upgraded to level 4 and added the subwoofer by keeping the new knobs provided black rather than match the previous cream of the original stereo. Marc and Julie at Figaro Club were as always on hand for many of the items I needed for the car including a complete set of new bumpers. Then Adam at Figaro Imports sourced me a brand new roof seal from Japan, fitted it and serviced the car for me.

This is my Figaro - his name is Doug - he is more than a car - he is part of the family :)

SUPPLIERS/HELPERS

STR Vehicle Wrapping
www.strwindowtinting.co.uk/vehicle-wrapping

Cass Bross in Bromley
www.carseatrepairs.com

Figaroclub
www.figaroclub.com

Figaro Imports
www.figaroimports.com

Clarion
www.clarion.com



Roof Detailing
Superb quality of stitching on the roof liner with more black & white detailing completes the car



Above - Now retired in Japan, Shimizu-san (center).

THE BIG INTERVIEW

Brian Akre talks to *Jun Shimizu*, who was Senior Manager of Design and Divisional General Manager of Design at Nissan in the late 1980s. In that position, he oversaw development of the four “Pike Factory” cars: Be-1, Pao, S-Cargo and the Figaro.

Now retired in Japan, Shimizu-san recently shared his thoughts about the Figaro and why it has remained so loved nearly a quarter-century after it was produced. In this recent conversation with member Brian Akre, he reveals that a source of inspiration for the design was the classic 1935 Datsun Roadster, as well as cars of the 1950s and '60s.

Q: To what do you attribute the Figaro's long-lasting popularity? Does it surprise you that so many Figaros have survived after 24 years and have been exported around the world?

A: I am surprised the Figaro has been loved for such a long time by people around the world. Although it is difficult for me to express the reasons in a word, I suppose that the Figaro has some kind of universal beauty and timeless appeal as an automobile – more than just a “classic car”. On top of that, I think it was due to the integrated, unique beauty throughout the vehicle from head to toe – exterior, body colors, parts, interior, naming, etc.

Q: The UK appears to be the biggest export market for used Figaros. There are Figaro clubs and several shops that import, service and provide parts for Figaros. What is your reaction to the Figaro's “cult car” status in the UK and other countries around the world?

A: I knew there were “Pike cars” such as the Figaro, Be-I and PAO remaining in Japan, but I am delighted to know people in the UK love the Figaro more than the Japanese! Your country not only carefully preserves nature, roadside and village landscapes, and rail, ship and automobile history and culture, but also creates cutting-edge culture. I suppose that was why British people really understand the attributes of the Figaro. This fact is something in which Nissan takes pride.

Q: Do you think the Pike cars, and the Figaro in particular, sparked the “retro movement” in car design that followed?

A: Certainly, in the mid-1980s, I don't think any other car existed, concept or production, that reflected the Figaro's retrospective taste. If you consider just that, I imagine that we might have had an impact on current car design trends.

Q: Some have speculated that it was based on the 1959 Datsun S211 or a variety of other cars?

A: The concept keywords of the Figaro were the same as the Be-I and PAO: “Nostalgic Modern”. As for the Figaro, the starting point of “nostalgia” was older than the 1950s – it was the 1935 Datsun Roadster. It was also an expression of respect for our origin – the Datsun series in the company's early years.

Our initial image of “nostalgia” was like this – opening the top of a Datsun Roadster, with a young lady in 1930s “Art-Deco” fashion, sitting in the rear seat wearing a hat with a parasol in her hand – a very classical and elegant feeling. Then we set the “modern” in the 1950-1960 era when car design was at its showiest. That's what the original idea of the Figaro was.

Q: How do you view the Figaro and the other Pike cars a quarter-century later? In hindsight, would you have done anything different?

Nissan only produced 20,000 Figaros, which was increased from the initial plans for only 8,000. Do you think Nissan should have produced even more of them, given the high demand at the time?

A: Nissan's Pike Car series was born from a completely different point of reference than the design history and trends of automobiles in Japan. Therefore, I do not think that we should have made the identity and design different, even after 24 years.

As for the limited production and sales volumes, at that time there were those who felt we should produce many more and contribute more to Nissan's profit. However I am satisfied from a product strategy standpoint that these unique cars created buzz, improved our corporate image, refreshed Nissan, and in the end contributed to Nissan's overall profit.

Q: Was any consideration ever given to selling the Figaro outside Japan? If not, why not?

A: There was no plan to export the Figaro. At that time, I suppose that Nissan Motor Co. was a multinational firm based in Japan that exported huge volumes of vehicles, with overseas production and which already had a huge number of customers all across the world. That was why something new from Nissan always appeared first in Japan.

The Pike Cars, beginning with the Be-I, were no exception – they were originally experimental projects in the Japanese market. Another reason there were no plans for overseas sales might have been that Pike Cars' product planning itself was the reflection of social trends and fashion in Japan at that time.

If we had been the globalized Nissan in the true sense of the word, the Nissan that we have become, there may have been thoughts of international sales, and it wouldn't have been odd for such products to come out of design centers overseas.

A personal message from Jun Shimizu to Figaro fans in the UK:

“Japanese modern crafts and design originate from the history of the British Arts and Crafts Movement led by William Morris, an English textile designer.

“In 1990, designers from five Japanese companies – Nissan, Sony, Canon, NEC and Hitachi – jointly established the Tokyo Design Network, an association for information exchange aimed at spreading a new Japanese culture of design. In 1991, the association held the Tokyo Design Network Exhibition at the London Design Museum, and we were able to interact there with many people from Great Britain.

“Although the network association was later disbanded, I again realize, by seeing all of you cherishing the Figaro, that Britain and Japan are deeply connected to each other in design culture as well.”

Jun Shimizu

Thanks to Brian Akre, who owns an Emerald Green Figaro and lives near Amsterdam.

Brian is the director of executive communications for the Renault-Nissan Alliance, which is based in Paris.



Nissan Figaro Design Concept

"I don't think I'll ever tire of my Figaros. I drive them both equally all year round every day, and put the roof down any time I can, day or night. I've carried an 10ft tree in it, numerous bags of cement and compost and thirty-two large lavender plants - the smell was glorious"

COVER STORY INTERVIEW

Member Belinda Wanless talks to *Figgyworld*

I first met the Figaro in 2006 when I happened to catch a bit of 'The Sarah Jane Adventures' on TV. I had a little bronze Fiat Punto at the time... just an A to B car....and there on the TV was something far more interesting and exciting.

By March 23rd 2008 I had sold the Punto and picked up my first Figaro; a beautiful emerald green. Even with some online investigation I didn't know much about the cars. The Figaro Owners Club hadn't yet been born; information was limited. It was by luck rather than by design that I managed to get a good car first time from a private seller. The first trip round the M25 in the dark and the quiet (the stereo was original and emitted just 'grizzles') was the start of my Figaro adventure.

In 2008 there was a gathering of Figaros at The Gaydon Motor Museum. So many cars to see and the first time I'd seen customised Figaros. At that meet I saw a Figaro of the most beautiful glittering orange colour. I took pictures and kept it in mind.

A week after the 2011 Ace Café meet I bought my second Figaro. By this time I what knew what to look for from experience and having taken much advice from the Figaro Club website. A month later it was fully serviced, and was the same sparkly orange colour of the car I'd seen at Gaydon. (I'd met the man who'd sprayed the Gaydon car at the 2011 Ace Cafe meet.)

In 2012 I took Fig 2 on my first Figaro Club rally to Jersey with my sister Lynette. I was nervous about the ferry trip as the Figs were packed in really tightly (don't forget to pull the handbrake!), but it was quite smooth and all the cars came out unscathed. The rallies are great! Driving the Figs in convoys is an amazing feeling. Everyone is so pleased to see this convoy of funny looking cars, and we always get lots of smiles, waves and photographs taken.

This year I am going up to Scotland. As I write, 32 cars are registered, several from The Netherlands, one from Germany and one from Luxembourg - it's truly becoming an international event. I don't think I'll ever tire of my Figaros.

I drive them both equally all year round every day, and put the roof down any time I can, day or night. I've carried an 10ft tree in it, numerous bags of cement and compost and thirty-two large lavender plants - the smell was glorious!



Belinda sandwiched between Fig 1 & Fig 2



Biscuit, Belinda & Lynette during our 2012 Jersey Rally.



Insight

Car Name: *Fig 2*

Colour: *Gemini*

Picture: *Mark Spooner*

Location: *Ace Cafe
London, England.*

EVENTS CALENDAR

BOOK ONLINE at www.figarownersclub.com/page/events

JUNE 1st - 5th 2015

SCOTLAND FIGARO RALLY

Join us for our biggest adventure yet when the club will be travelling to the north of the UK to explore the wild roads, castles and wonders of bonnie Scotland.
ENTRY COST: SOLD OUT



JUNE 7th 2015

CHERISHED VEHICLE SHOW

The Lions Club of Chippenham are hosting a Cherished Vehicles Show near Castle Combe race track in Wiltshire to raise money for Lions Charity work.
ENTRY COST: FREE

JUNE 14th 2015

SHUTTLEWORTH OLD WARDEN MEET

Join us at Shuttleworth Old Warden Aerodrome and discover a truly awe-inspiring collection of historic aircraft and vehicles dating from the first half of the 20th century.

ENTRY COST: £10 PP/£6 PP

JUNE 20th & 21st 2015

BATH FESTIVAL OF MOTORING

Last year the event welcomed over 350 exhibitors and in excess of 6,000 visitors through the gate. Our club have been invited to display our cars at this event. As exhibitors our entry will be free but donations towards the charity will be sought but not demanded.

ENTRY COST: DONATION

JUNE 20th & 21st 2015

TYNTESFIELD CLASSIC CAR SHOW

The club have been invited to attend this wonderful event located at the spectacular Victorian Gothic Revival house of Tynesfield with gardens and parkland based just outside Bristol. ONLY 10 SPACES AVAILABLE.

ENTRY COST: FREE

JUNE 28th 2015

BURNLEY CLASSIC VEHICLE SHOW 2015

Club member Irvin Mehlman is taking his Figaro again to this event and wanted other owners to join him! Formally the Towneley Classic Car Show, the Burnley Classic Vehicle Show is hosted by The Rotary Club of Burnley in conjunction with Burnley Borough Council, it is now in it's 31st year and is more popular than ever. Held in the grounds of Towneley Hall it is a family friendly event with lots to see and do for everyone.

ENTRY COST: FREE

featured event



JUNE 14TH - SHUTTLEWORTH OLD WARDEN FIGARO MEET

AEROPLANES & GARDENS MEET

Explore the hangars, smell the engine oil, see the engineers at work and then return on an event day to be captivated by these incredible aircraft in flight, taking off from our traditional grass runway. Also discover the Swiss Garden which truly deserves the title of 'hidden gem' and a great bonus.

PRICE: £10 pp Hangars + £6 for optional Swiss Gardens

MORE INFORMATION: www.figarownersclub.com/events/shuttleworth-old-warden-2015/

JULY 3rd - 5th 2015

FIGFEST 2015

A fun weekend for anyone who owns a Figaro. Includes optional overnight camping, convoy driving, treasure hunt, fancy dress, dancing and buckets of laughs and fun with other owners. It really is a fantastic weekend away!

Friday Night – 3 bands in the clubhouse, group BBQ – bring your own BBQ and food, get to know each other.

Saturday – Car treasure hunt in afternoon, bands start in afternoon in fig field and clubhouse

Saturday Night – Fancy Dress

and Band

Sunday – Convoy to Yarmouth, Raffles, Prizes for Best Cars, People of the weekend, Pub Meal in the Evening for those of you who stay with us and go home on the Sunday.

ENTRY COST: SMALL CHARGE TO COVER RAFFLE

JULY 18th 2015

NISSAN BRAND DAY

The club is again invited to attend this FREE ENTRY exclusive Nissan event. We have 5 car spaces available which will have a great day with all the 'Nissan' crowd – they were a well organised, friendly team.

ENTRY COST: FREE

JULY 31st - AUGUST 2nd 2015

CARFEST NORTH 2015

The club will be exhibiting 5 Figaros at CarFest North which is a 3 day festival of Music, Food and Cars.

ENTRY COST: SOLD OUT

AUGUST 28th - 30th 2015

CARFEST SOUTH 2015

The club will be exhibiting 5 Figaros at CarFest South which is a 3 day festival of Music, Food and Cars.

ENTRY COST: SOLD OUT

AUGUST 28th - 30th 2015

WINGS & WHEELS DUNSFOLD PARK 2015

Dunsfold Wings & Wheels will be returning to the historic setting of Dunsfold Aerodrome (home of BBC's Top Gear), Guildford, Surrey.

ENTRY COST: TBA

SEPTEMBER 20th 2015

SURREY CLASSIC VEHICLE GATHERING 2015

Fancy a fantastic day out with other Figaro owners and classic car enthusiasts? This event is great and there's loads to do for children & all the family. Bring

your own picnic, or visit the Café.
ENTRY COST: FREE

NOVEMBER 13th - 15th 2015

CLASSIC CAR SHOW 2015

Join us at the Lancaster Insurance Classic Motor Show

The UK's Biggest & Best Classic Motor Show 13 14 15 November 2015 at The NEC, Birmingham
ENTRY COST: From £20

2016 EVENTS

APRIL 9th 2016

ACE CAFE LONDON MEET 2016

Figaro Owners Club first event of the year kicks off at the superb Ace Cafe London. In 2015 we had over 72 cars attend. If you've never been before it's well worth the drive

ENTRY COST: FREE

JUNE 4th & 5th 2016

NISSAN FIGARO 25TH ANNIVERSARY BIG PARTY WEEKEND 2016

All our members are invited to join our 'BIG PARTY WEEKEND' at the stunning Wroxall Abbey near Birmingham to celebrate the cars 25th Anniversary. See featured event.

featured event



JUNE 4TH - 5TH WROXALL ABBEY, WARWICKSHIRE, UK.

FIGARO 25TH ANNIVERSARY BIG PARTY WEEKEND 2016

This one-off event will have a 'family festival atmosphere' so bring the kids! Attractions will include but not be limited too... Figaro Car Displays, Trade Stand, Raffle, Competitions, Rally Drive Out, Music/Face Painting/Fun Areas, Technical Support Area, Demonstrations/Live Workshops, Lots of other activities yet to be decided

PRICE: £25 PER CAR (SUNDAY 5TH) + OPTIONAL £35 DINNER/DANCE & £85/£95 ACCOMODATION (SATURDAY 5TH)
MORE INFORMATION: www.figarownersclub.com/events/birthday

SEPTEMBER 5th - 9th 2016

BELGIUM FIGARO RALLY 2016 (provisional)

The club is looking into the possibility of arranging a Belgium Figaro Rally next year. If we get good initial interest then we will go to the next step and create the

rally in full with a booking page later in the summer.

INTERESTED IN BEGIUM?

If you may be interested in attending our Belgium Figaro Rally please complete our registration form by the 12th June 2015

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Not an event near you? We're always looking for Venue and Rally ideas so if you feel you would like to help organise one then simply complete our form and we will add it to this list of events!

[Submit Here](#)



Auto Jap Spares - Your specialist Nissan Figaro Parts Supplier

Tel: 024 7647 4848 Email: sales@autojapspares.co.uk Web: www.autojapspares.co.uk

MEMBERS GALLERY

FALL IN LOVE WITH A FIGARO

The picture was taken with a interview by the newspaper "Limburgs Dagblad" (150.000 readers). It is a full page article about Rick and his Figaro. The weekly column features a car now it was my turn.



RICK VAN GURP

LOCATION
Brunssum, Netherlands.

PHOTOGRAPHER
Arnaud Nilwik



SYRO O'CONNOR

LOCATION
Antrim Castle Grounds. Antrim,
Northern Ireland.

PHOTOGRAPHER
Brian Murphy



NIKKI & MOKE WALTON

LOCATION
Reedham, Norfolk, England.

PHOTOGRAPHER
Nikki Walton



SEND IN YOUR FIGARO PICTURES!

We're always on the look out for those special pictures so why not submit yours and get your car in print and online

[Submit here](#)



FIG Number Plates from
£150 +VAT + Transfer Fee

FIG 6778

FIG 4000

FIG 5834

FIG 19

02866 387124
www.speedyreg.co.uk

OWNER WORKSHOP

Rocker Shaft Information

CONTRIBUTOR: SIMON SMITH (FORUM TECHNICAL GURU & GLOBAL MODERATOR)



IS YOUR FIGARO GOING OFF ITS ROCKER!

At the top of the Figaro engine is a rocker shaft that holds the rocker arms in place, these rest on the camshaft lobes. When the camshaft turns the lobes push the rocker arm against the valve causing it to open and then close.

A very common problem on the Figaro (and similar Nissan engines) is the bolts that hold the rocker shaft in place on top of the engine head become loose. This can then cause the rocker shaft to move, crack and then snap.

As you can see from the pictures if the rocker shaft is allowed to move they normally break at the weakest point; at bolt holes. When this occurs the engine usually power is lost or it can stop completely, however damage can occur to the bolt thread holes which will need the top engine head repairing and if you're unlucky serious engine damage can occur resulting in engine rebuilding.

There are however checks that can be taken to prevent this from occurring. The rocker securing end bolts should be fitted with securing clips, however with age these quite often crack, and break apart allowing the bolts to be able to come loose. In order to make these checks and access the rocker shaft the rocker cover needs to be removed. First the turbo air outlet pipe needs removing by undoing the 4 clips over the two rubber pipes which hold the metal pipe in place. Once the rubbers are loose the one nearest the turbo can be slid over the metal pipe, this then allows the metal pipe to be angled away from the turbo and fully removed. Next the large and small breather pipes need unclipping from the rocker cover pipes and moved aside and the electrical connector attached to the throttle body unclipped carefully - there is a metal retaining clip around it holding it in place.

The two small bolts on the top of the rocker cover at the gearbox side holding the bracket for the water pipe in place then need removing allowing the bracket to be pivoted up and away. The other side of the rocker cover there is one small bolt holding on the accelerator cable bracket in place.

The top two rocker cover nuts can next be removed and the large round metal washers and rubber mushroom grommets can be removed from the cover, these normally deteriorate and crack and therefore then need replacing.

To remove the rocker cover it's easier to lift the driver side up and then turn it and lift the whole lot up and away taking care not to damage the rocker cover gasket. If there are any signs of oil around the top of the engine coming from around the rocker cover, or the gasket is old, cracked or deteriorated, then this should be replaced as well.

At this point the top of the engine is exposed and care must be taken not to let anything drop inside. The first checks should now be made to see if anything is missing, worn or loose. If there are it recommended that these are replaced. The diagram and picture shows all the parts, below lists the Nissan part numbers and prices. These are easily available from your local Nissan dealer and are normally cheaper than elsewhere, always fit proper Nissan parts. As well as fitting the securing clips it's worth removing all the bolts and using a

small amount of Loctite or Thread lock on them to help prevent any movement. They should all then be tightened to the correct settings, the torque settings from the Nissan service manual are also shown on the part diagram. It is important not to miss the washers or fit any alternatives as without them the bolts will touch the rocker shaft locking it in position resulting in catastrophic engine damage when attempting to start the engine.

Having refitted all the parts the valve (tappet) clearances should be checked. Full details on how to do this are available on the Figaro Club Technical Forum see below links...

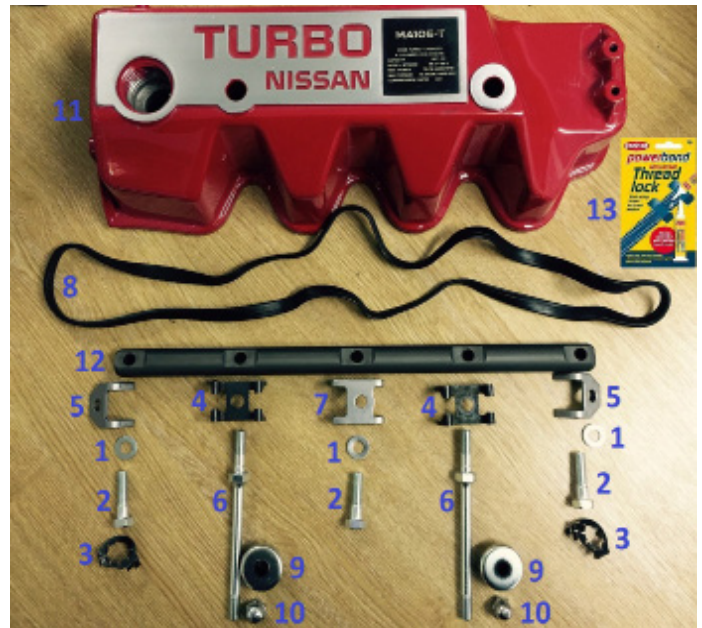
Forum Links

<http://figarownersclubforum.com/thread/5959/check-rocker-shaft-fit-securing>

&

<http://figarownersclubforum.com/thread/5956/check-adjust-valve-clearances-tappets>

If your garage is undertaking the work in fitting the securing parts and adjusting the tappets for you, they should charge between 1-2 hours, this will be more if there is any damage found.



Parts are available from....

- 1) 13222C: Plain Washer (x3)**
PN: O131100741 - Nissan Dealer: £1.13
- 2) 13221A: Rocker Bolt (x3) ****
PN: O80208301A (was O111100552) - Nissan Dealer: £2.82
- 3) 13221E: Bolt Stopper (securing clip) (x2) * **** PN: 1325401M00 - Nissan Dealer: £3.56
- 4) 13256: Rocker Spring (x2)**
PN: 1325601B00 - Nissan Dealer: £2.52
- 5) 13255: Rocker pivot retainer (x2)** PN: 1325501B00 - Nissan Dealer: £1.22
- 6) 13222A: Rocker Shaft Bolt (x2) **** PN: 1322417B0A (was 1322417B00) - Nissan Dealer: £3.65
- 7) 13255N: Rocker Shaft Centre Retainer (x1)** PN: 1326001B00 - Nissan Dealer: £2.53
- 8) 13270: Rocker Cover Gasket (x1) **** PN: 1327017B00 - Nissan Dealer: £15.89
- 9) 13264J: Rocker Cover seals (Round Mushroom rubber with metal washers) (x2) * **** PN: 1329815M00 - Nissan Dealer: £4.66
- 10) 13264C: Rocker Cover Nut (x2)**
** PN: 131370101P - Nissan Dealer: £3.53
- 11) 13264: Rocker Cover (x1)**
PN: 1326417B86 – NLA New. Available used eg: eBay. Also available refurbished; shot blasted and refinished from The Figaro Shop: £135
- 12) 13252: Rocker Shaft (x1)**
PN: 1325201B00 - Nissan Dealer: £64.00
- 13) Thread lock (Removable) (x1) ***
PN: N/A – eBay\Local Motor factor: -£5

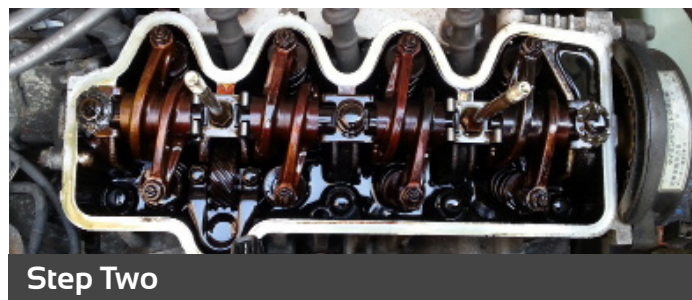
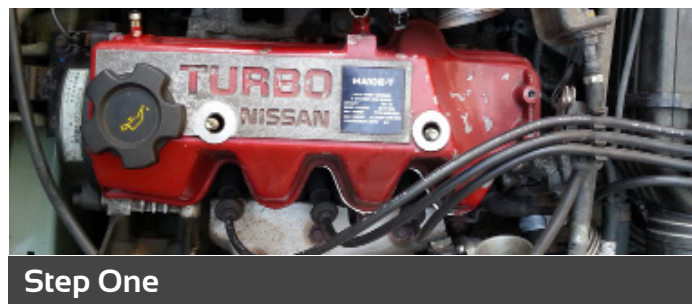
* These are the minimum recommended items.

** These parts are available as a kit from The Figaro Shop here: Figaro Rocker Shaft Re-tension Kit at £49.99 + £3 delivery.

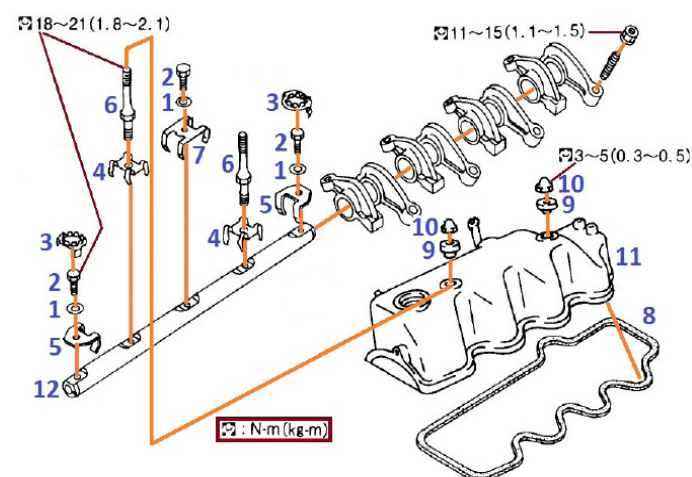
Prices correct as March 2015

Please note this information is provided in good faith from various sources. As with anything you should only carry out work with the correct tools and skills. We are therefore not responsible for anything occurring from this information\advice, you are doing so at your own risk!

NEXT EDITION
Figaro Heater unit restoration



Parts (Prices ~ March 2015)



42 CARS REGISTERED!
With a year to go we already have 42 cars registered so are on the way to our target! If you wish to join us on the Saturday evening its worth booking your place as we have limited accommodation at the hotel



"THE FIGARO SHOW AREA WILL ACCEPT 400 CARS AND CRAZY AS IT SOUNDS THIS IS OUR TARGET - POSITIVE GLASS HALF-FULL THINKING"

NISSAN FIGARO BIRTHDAY PARTY!

25th Anniversary Big Party Weekend 2016

Make a date in your diary - 4th/5th June 2016

To celebrate the cars 25th Birthday in 12 months time our club will be preparing for what we hope will be the largest gathering of Figaros ever in the world. Our Figaro Show Area will accept 400 cars and crazy as it sounds this is our target - positive glass half-full thinking!

The venue for this 'one-off party' is the fabulous Wroxall Abbey, an Award Winning Country House Hotel located in Warwickshire (almost in the middle of the UK). Dating back to the 12th Century and once the Country Seat of Sir Christopher Wren.

DINNER/DANCE - SATURDAY 4th JUNE 2016

On the Saturday we will have a Dinner Dance so hope you can join us and make a weekend of it!

FIGARO FAIR - SUNDAY 5th JUNE 2016

Sunday is the day of the Figaro Fair which will have a 'family festival atmosphere' to it so please bring the kids!

ATTRACTIONS

Figaro Car Displays - Trade Stand - Raffle - Competitions - Rally Drive Out - Music/Face Painting/Fun Areas - Technical Support Area - Demonstrations/Live Workshops - Lots of other activities yet to be decided will make for a truly amazing day.

WIN A TROPHY!

Bring your pride & joy along and who knows you could be going home with 'Car of The Show' Trophy at our awards.

Winners cars will then be invited to park in a special 'Winners Area' on the Abbey's Terrace for a unique Photo opportunity

FIGARO RALLY DRIVE OUT

Part of the day will include a 30 minute spin around the beautiful Warwick countryside. Can you imagine the one-off photo opportunities as we set off in convoy! All cars will be provided with a flag to attach to their Figaro and this will make for a truly one-off experience as we make our way in convoy waving at everyone!

TRADE STAND/BRING & BUY

We are hoping to attract a number of Specialist Figaro Suppliers to our Trade Area and also invite you to bring along any Figaro items you may have for sale?

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER HERE](#)



Join us for our Dinner/Dance Birthday Celebrations on the Saturday Evening



Make a weekend of it and stay in one of the 72 luxury bedrooms available



FIGARO MASTERCLASS

CONTRIBUTOR: [Toby Brooks](#) EMAIL: info@thefigaroshop.co.uk

EXPERT TOBY BROOKS TALKS TO *FIGGYWORLD* ABOUT PAINTING!

Following my article about rust repairs in the last edition of *Figgyworld* I thought it would be a nice idea to follow the process on from there. Painting a Fig' is a much more enjoyable process in terms of aesthetics; one that can make a slightly tired looking car into a vibrant, gleaming one again.....or even a unique extension of your personality!

I wanted to show you this in detail as like some other repairs it's hard to demonstrate what's involved. I'll take off from the point the Figgy has its rust repaired, the process would be almost identical if it were for a dent or new panel.

First the area is prepared for primer, the technician gets the area as close to the final shape as possible, this involves using a hammer and a rounded block of solid metal called a 'dolly' to gently tap the metal to the required shape, it also includes the use of body fillers which are spread on like putty and then rubbed down to create the desired shape. The idea is to get the shape perfect whilst not using too much filler.

On some poorer repairs the filler is used instead of either welding or hammering a dent out. This speeds up repair time but shortens the life

of the repair, cracks and bubbles can appear within weeks.

Once the area is shaped correctly its sprayed with a primer, this is a thick coat of paint which will seal the repair and also help remove any final small imperfections.

When fully dry the primer is sprayed with a light coat of paint called a 'guide coat', this coat is rubbed away with sandpaper and helps the technician to see if they have any small indentations in the repair area. The aim is for the primer to be silky smooth and have no remains of the guide coat in any crevices.

Following the primer being smoothed to perfection the area is carefully masked up, using a mix of masking tapes and non static plastic



The finished car ready for collection

sheeting. There is quite an art to getting this tight and the masking lines perfect. For the best job possible on your Figaro try to remove all fixtures and fittings, trying to mask these up will save time but will cause the paint to peel away later on.

Once masked and in a clean, dry, well lit and ventilated area (ideally a paint booth) the car is finally ready to paint. This preparation can take anything from a few hours to weeks depending on the size of the area being painted and the number and severity of the repairs. Before final painting the area must be thoroughly cleaned with a solvent based degreaser, grease is the painters enemy and the smallest amount of oil or silicone product in the area can cause huge problems.

The process starts with a 'base' or coloured ground coat, 2-3 coats are applied evenly to produce the desired effect. Its very important that the coats are equal, if not the finished product can have shadows and clouds.

Once the base coat is applied and has dried the painter will check for any imperfections and then spray 2-3 coats of lacquer. The lacquer gives the paint its shine and ensures its hard wearing and long lasting.

This is the point at which the car gets its stunning glossy shine and also the time you can stand back and admire all the hard work so far. Good quality paints need to be baked at a very specific temperature, this allows the lacquer to harden correctly and prepares it for the next process, polishing.

The polishing involves firstly rubbing down any minor imperfections or dirt in the top coat, these are usually from dust which was in the air and landed on the panel, this is done gently using a very smooth sandpaper. Then the entire painted area is polished using an electric circulating polisher and a slightly abrasive polish.

Doing this is one of the steps that makes a good paint job into a great

paint job, it's easy to spend days on this process if your seeking a high level of finish.

At this stage the Figgy usually still needs the chrome trim to be assembled but it's always a clear turning point of any repair or restoration, it's a very satisfying feeling when you stand back and admire the car.

I am more than happy to try and advise anyone who is planning to have a go at painting any parts on their car, or if I can be of help in any other way regarding your Figgy's paintwork just let me know.

Image 1

Here is the panel all ready for primer, the repairs and filling are complete and has been rubbed down.

Image 2

The panel is primed, usually with a thick 'high build' primer.

Image 3

You can see here the panel has now been 'guide coated' and is being rubbed off smooth.

Image 4

The degreasing takes place with a special 'tacky' cloth and the degreasing fluid.

Image 5

The base coat gives the colour but the shine will come once the lacquer is applied.

Image 6

The lacquer is the most tricky part to apply, done well it looks amazing!

Image 7

Whether the car is an original shade or a vibrant custom colour the process is still the same. The results too, always win a smile, no matter what the colour!



NITROGEN - IS IT ALL JUST HOT AIR?

JOHN COOPER: This month John talks to *Figgyworld* about the pros and cons of using Nitrogen in your tyres.

Everyone knows you should regularly check your tyre pressures, the condition of the tyre, tread, uneven wear and so on, and the benefits of doing so.

If you want your tyres to grip the road as they should, if you don't want unnecessary or uneven tyre wear, make sure the pressures are correct. You don't want to have to replace them prematurely.

Low tyre pressure can increase fuel consumption because more resistance is required to move your car. We all like to save money. My tyres are filled with nitrogen. Does that mean I don't check them as often? Absolutely not. I still check them regularly. So why fill them with nitrogen I hear you ask.

Nitrogen is less likely to leak from your tyres. Why? Because nitrogen molecules are larger than oxygen molecules. However, let's be clear, the difference is only a few psi a year. There is also less pressure change associated with temperature swings. The longer (and faster) you drive, the more a tyre heats up. And more heat means more pressure.

Nitrogen is a dry air. Normal compressed air is humid, and humidity, or water, is a bad thing to have inside a tyre. Water vapour causes more of a pressure change with temperature swings in a tyre than dry air does. Not to mention the effect water has on metal - be it steel or alloy.

So with nitrogen, you'll save a small amount of fuel and maintenance costs, tyre pressures will be more constant and there will be less

moisture inside your tyres, so less corrosion on your wheels.

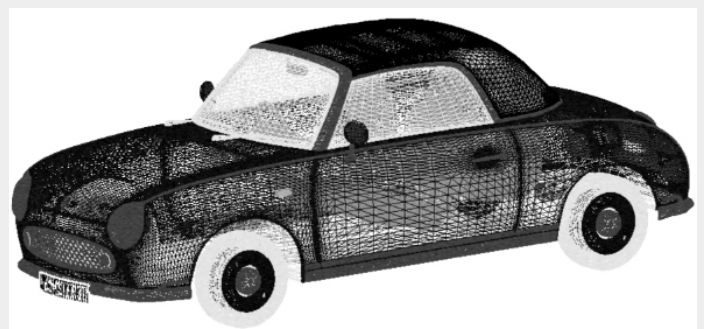
Correct tyre pressures for a standard Figaro wheel and tyre set up are:

Tyre Size	Tyre Pressure	Note
165/70R12	2.0 bar / 29 psi	Standard Vehicles
155SR12	2.2 bar / 32 psi	Vehicles for cold district*

*In Japan, cars in colder climates had different tyres and pressures

The workshop manual states that tyre pressure may increase approximately 0.3kg/cm² while driving. It says to check the pressure when the tyres are cold, or three hours after driving. Not as much of an issue with nitrogen filled tyres.

John Cooper



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SAVE 15% ON CLASSIC LINE CAR INSURANCE

We've joined forces with 'Classic Line Insurance' to offer you 15% Discount on your car insurance. t: 01455 639000

[Read more](#)

DISCOUNT CODE: FOC3828



SAVE £10 ON YOUR 'AGREED INSURANCE VALUATION'

When insuring your Figaro we highly recommend an 'Agreed Price' at commencement of your policy as this will provide a 'no questions asked payment'. As the Official Nissan Figaro Owners Club we are authorised by Insurance Companies to provide Insurance Valuations on

the Nissan Figaro. We can now provide on-line valuations for only £15 for our members (normally £25). Order your Certificate today.

[Read more](#)



SAVE 15% ON YOUR FIGARO MUD FLAPS

You may not know this but the original Figaro Mud flaps are no longer available so we have been working with a specialist company to recreate them. Well the great news is they add a final finishing touch to your car

[Read more](#)

DISCOUNT CODE: FIGARO1

SAVE UP TO 45% ON YOUR AA BREAKDOWN COVER

The club is delighted to offer 45% Discount off at enrolment plus an ongoing 10% discount at renewal. t: 0800 048 0075

[Read more](#)

DISCOUNT CODE: DCF0729

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Keep your investment clean and shiny with our wide range of covers.

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DISCOUNT CODE: FOC7

SAVE 10% ON YOUR FIGARO MANUALS

Our range of Figaro Manuals are a must for anyone who owns the car.

[Read more](#)

DISCOUNT CODE: JNPZ10

SAVE ON RUST PROTECTION

The Figaro Owners Club has joined forces with Rustmaster to protect your car. If you use your car in the winter or in all weathers then this is a great investment. Your Figaro is hot pressure blasted with the result that loose, and not so loose rust, is literally blown away.

[Read more](#)

MENTION THAT YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE FOC CLUB



SAVE 7.5% ON A BOOT RACK

One of the most popular accessories this luggage rack has marine varnished hardwood slats to put the luggage on, giving a more classic look.

[Read more](#)

DISCOUNT CODE: FIGARO77

SAVE 7.5% ON SERVICE KIT

This Service kit is provided by Autolink UK and is an ideal solution if you are planning on going on a long trip and contains Oil, Air & Fuel Filters and Spark Plugs.

[Read more](#)

DISCOUNT CODE IS: FIGARO77

SAVE 15% ON SEAT CARE

One of the main appeals of the Figaro is the superb leather seats. To keep these in tip-top condition the club works with the Leather Repair Company who produce a range of quality leather care, repair & restoration products.

[Read more](#)

DISCOUNT CODE: figaro 15

SUPPLIERS DIRECTORY

FIND WHAT YOU NEED

GARAGES

Algys Autos Ltd (Fig4U)

Units A/C, Hallen Industrial Estate, Severn Road, Bristol, BS10 7SE.

t: 0800 634 7576

e: sales@algysautos.com

w: www.algysautos.com

Bookam Autos

Leatherhead Road, Great Bookham, London KT23 4RQ
t: 01372 456274 / 07927 370701

e: bookhamautos@gmail.com

w: www.figarosales.co.uk

DTN Trading

Ballacraine, Chuck Hatch, Hartfield, East Sussex, TN7 4EX.
t: 01892 770319

e: dtntesting@gmail.com

w: www.dtntrading.co.uk

Figaro Car Imports

Based in Cheshire
t: 07969 114639

e: baz@figaro-car-imports.co.uk

w: www.figaro-car-imports.co.uk

Figaro Cars

Unit 1, Grosvenor Road, Wanstead, London, E11 2GA.
t: 07836 713404

e: steve.mccartney@virgin.net

Figaro Doctor

Collingwood Road, Sutton, Surrey. SM1 2NX.

t: 0208 401 2288/07941 690372

e: figaro@doctor.com

w: www.figarodoctor.co.uk

FigaroCars

Tesselscaedestraat 22, 5216 JW, s-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands.

t: +31 (0) 738000239

e: info@figarocars.nl

w: www.figarocars.nl

Figaro Club

Gloster Lodge, Stambridge Road, Rochford, Essex, SS4 1ES.

t: 07753 636131

e: info@figaroclub.com

w: www.figaroclub.com

Figaro Imports

11 Enterprise Industrial Estate, Bolina Road, London SE16 3LF

t: 020 7237 1090

e: adam@figaroimports.com

w: www.figaroimports.com

Figaro Service Centre

Unit 5, 18 Salamons Way, Essex RM13 9UL

t: 0207 993 6976

e: figaroservice@hotmail.com

w: www.figaroservicecentre.com

Figaro Specialist

Opstalweg 2, 2671LW, Naaldwijk, The Netherlands.P

t: +31 (0) 62-409-5387

e: info@figarospecialist.nl

w: www.figarospecialist.nl

Figaro Restore

Hallen Industrial Estate, Severn Road, Hallen, Bristol, BS10 7SE.

t: 0117 938 2542

e: mail@figarorestore.co.uk

w: www.figarorestore.co.uk

K.P. AUTO REPAIRS

Servicing Only

5, Raymond Court, Haverhill, Suffolk, London, CB98PH.

t: 01440706175

e: email.kpautos1993@gmail.com

w: www.kpautorepairs.webs.com

Leigh Car & Commercial

1106-1108 London Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 2AJ.

t: 01702 716713

e: toyotawill@btconnect.com

w: www.nissanfigaro.com

Nissan Figaro World

182 Preston road, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 8PA.

t: 0781 7676237

e: nissanfigaroworld@hotmail.co.uk

w: www.nissanfigaroworld.com

The Figaro Factory

Sayes Court Lodge, Liberty Lane, Addlestone, Surrey KT15 1LX.

t: 01932 852959

e: info@figarofactory.co.uk

w: www.figarofactory.co.uk

The Figaro Shop

Richs Sidings, Lower Bradway, Didcot, OX118AG.

t: 01235 812511

e: info@thefigaroshop.co.uk

w: www.thefigaroshop.co.uk

PARTS

Autojap Spares

110 Eastcotes, Coventry, West Midlands, CV4 9AS

t: 024 7647 4848

e: sales@autojapspares.co.uk

w: www.autojapspares.co.uk/

Bookham Autos

Leatherhead Road, Great Bookham, London KT23 4R
t: 01372 456274 / 07927 370701

e: bookhamautos@gmail.com

w: www.nissanfigaroworld.com/parts.html

Figaro Club

Gloster Lodge, Stambridge Road, Rochford, Essex, SS4 1ES.

t: 07753 636131

e: info@figaroclub.com

w: www.figaroclub.com

The Figaro Shop

Richs Sidings, Lower Bradway, Didcot, OX118AG.

t: 01235 812511

e: info@thefigaroshop.co.uk

w: www.thefigaroshop.co.uk

Wilson's Automobiles &

Coachworks Ltd

Nonsuch Business Park, Kiln Lane, Epsom, Surrey, KT17 1DH.

t: 01372 736066

e: itjs@wilsons.co.uk

w: Visit Ebay Website

ACCESSORIES

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Unit 1, Lycroft Farm, Park Lane,
Upper Swanmore, Hampshire,
SO32 2QQ.

t: 01489 877770

e: admin@autolinkuk.co.uk

w: www.autolinkuk.co.uk

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t: 01262 671962

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e: sales@classicadditions.co.uk

w: www.classicadditions.com

CD RADIO UPGRADE

Clarion Service UK

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Leigh, Nr Cricklade, Wiltshire,
SN6 6RA

t: 01285 861861

e: mail@clarion-service.co.uk

w: www.clarion-service.co.uk

Sound & Vision Technical Services

284 Leith Walk, Edinburgh.
Scotland, EH6 5BX.

t: 0131 553 2126

e: support@svtservices.co.uk

w: www.svtservices.co.uk

INSURANCE

ClassicLine Insurance Services

138 Castle Street, Hinckley,
Leicester, LE10 1DD.

t: 01455 639 000

e: info@classiclineinsurance.co.uk

w: www.classiclineinsurance.co.uk

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Leather Repair Company

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Estate, Hull, East Yorkshire,
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t: 01482 976803

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w: www.leatherrepaircompany.com

LUGGAGE

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t: 0121 308 3172

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w: www.hillsalive.co.uk

MUD FLAPS

Performance Creations

Unit K, Swan Centre, 4 Higher
Swan Lane, Bolton, Lancashire
BL3 3AQ.

t: 01204 659 594

e: performancecreations@btinternet.com

w: www.performancecreations.co.uk

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Personalised Figaro Plates

Speedy Registrations

Millwood, Lisbellaw, County
Fermanagh, BT94 5HQ

t: 02866 387124

e: sales@speedyreg.co.uk

w: www.speedyreg.co.uk

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European Trimming Company

7 Amy Road, Oxted, Surrey,
RH8 0PX.

t: 01883 718530

e: info@europeantrimming.co.uk

w: www.europeantrimming.co.uk

RUST PROTECTION

Rustmaster South

Hatfield, Unit 2,
Symondshyde Farm,
Symondshyde, nr. Hatfield
AL10 9BB.

t: 01707 274819

Rustmaster North

Knutsford, Springwood,
Pavement Lane, Mobberley,
Cheshire WA16 7EQ.

t: 07748 274966

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National Windscreens

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Tamworth, Staffordshire, B77
4AS.

t: 01827 338 969

w: www.nationalwindscreens.co.uk

GET YOUR COMPANY LISTED?

To add your business to this directory simply email the club with your Figaro services and contact information.

sales@figarownersclub.com

ADDITIONAL CLUB SERVICES



NISSAN FIGARO BUYERS GUIDE

Priced at just £6 and published by the Figaro Owners Club this Online (PDF) Guide will be emailed to you within minutes and is a comprehensive guide to buying a Nissan Figaro.

Highly recommended to anyone buying the car!

[CLICK HERE](#)



INSURANCE VALUATION

To guarantee that your Figaro is properly insured it is important to get it valued. This will not only ensure that you are completely covered should the worst happen, it could also save you loads of money in the process.

[CLICK HERE](#)



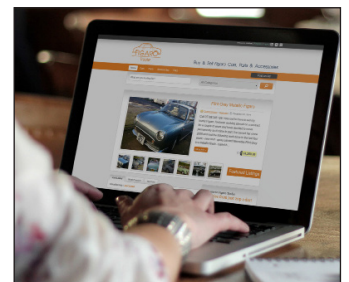
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All products are in stock and delivered within a days

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BUY & SELL YOUR FIGARO

Figaro Trader allows private & trade users to advertise Nissan Figaro Cars, Parts & Accessories.

The site is owned and run by The Figaro Owners Club who represent existing and future owners of the Nissan Figaro.

[CLICK HERE](#)

WE NEED YOUR **HELP!**



Jennifer Hopkins during
our 2013 Normandy Rally

**Got a good picture or story and want to
share it with our membership?**

*We urgently need member contributions for our
next edition so please get in touch*

[CLICK HERE](#)

Figgyworld is published by
Figaro Owners Club, 58 Earl Howe Road,
Holmer Green, High Wycombe, Bucks,
HP15 6QT, ENGLAND.

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