



M3 junction 9 3/4 unveiled

Highways Albion has begun consultation on plans to upgrade junction 9 on M3 to complete fantasy

Jerry Fairfield

THE WINCE-WORTHY £12bn rebuild is needed to tackle the long-standing issue of too many people driving too many cars at the same time on the same road. Congestion caused by motorists 'just passing through' often sees Winchester drivers backed up as far as Sunbury-on-Thames.

The new junction design will offer drivers the option to drive at 70mph directly at a concrete bridge support and find themselves magically transported into a 1940's Morris Minor driving across a viaduct en route for Scotland.

The proposal will help to reduce congestion by completely removing approximately 60% of drivers from the M3 at the new junction. Through-traffic from the A34 to M27 will therefore benefit from improved safety and enhanced journey times.

Subject to a successful consultation outcome, construction could start in 2018 and take around two days to complete.



New plans to reduce traffic by 60%

Highways Albion project manager Harold Spotley said: "Junction 9 3/4 is a vital interchange between the M3 and A34. With more than 25 million vehicles using the junction each hour during peak times, it can often become a tad bunged up. Our radical design aims to ease the problem significantly."

Asked if the proposals were founded on any kind of established road construction methodology, Spotley replied, "No."

A small biro sketch of the design will be pinned to a lamppost somewhere at some point. The public are invited to scrutinise it and comment by the end of the day.

NEWS IN BRIEF

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TEAM GB SKATER awarded medal for remaining on her feet for whole race

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WINCHESTER STREET MARKET Facebook page gets 2nd 'like' of 2018 - person responsible hounded from Winchester

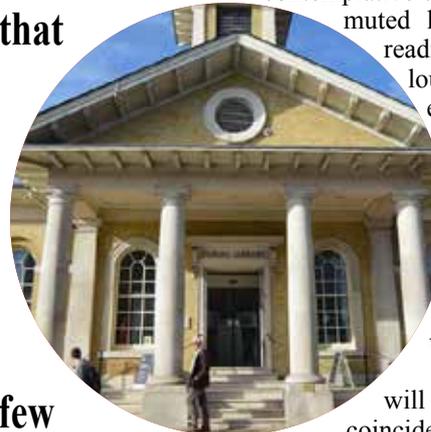
Discovery Centre to be re-branded

Jerry Fairfield

FOLLOWING a competition, the Discovery Centre is to be re-launched with a new name to end the confusion over what exactly it is supposed to be. Competition entries included 'Information Café', 'Data Den', 'Knowledge Gallery', and 'Booky McBookface'.

After much discussion, however, the judges declared the winner to be 'Library'. A spokeswoman said: "We were looking for a name to reflect the core mission of the organisation – to enable people to read and borrow books – and 'library' seemed ideal. It helps that over our main entrance it says 'PUBLIC LIBRARY'."

"The problem with 'Discovery Centre' was the discovery that visitors were disappointed when they discovered the Discovery Centre was basically a library with a few random bits tacked on."



"We did everything we could to disguise it – disrupted the studious and contemplative atmosphere, introduced muted lighting to discourage reading, had people sing loudly in a back room, encouraged people to slop tea and coffee over the Barbara Cartlands – but people always ended up realising that it really is a library with some extra rooms in the back somewhere."

The change of name will be introduced to coincide with the next major building repair works, in other words, within the next couple of years.

“A gloriously intimidating road bully with Enhanced Drive Behavioural shock therapy”



Volva Arse CX90ii by Clark Jermyn

What it's worth
New \$49,999
(£60,000 worth
of options)
Cost per mile
£49.96



TopSteer Review

Ups It's massive
Downs You can't afford it

OWN 250 SPORTS cars, 17 tanks, 4 Robin Reliants and a helicopter. But for day-to-day road use - including court appearances - I always drive a Volva. I drive it because it's me. On wheels. Me on wheels but with illuminated monogrammed tread plates and integrated diamond tailpipe finishers. This year's model - the 2018 Arse CX90ii - is more me than ever.

It's sleek. It's bulbous. It's intimidating. It's a glorious road-bully forged in the same factory that chucks out Terminators and Transformers. Mine's black. Yours will be too if you can afford one. Which you can't. In fact the Arse only comes in black. Shiny, glossy, evil, menacing, face-reflecting black.

Volva legend tells of a customer focus group. Someone dared suggest magnolia, peach and evergreen colour options. They found themselves cased in concrete at the bottom of the North Sea a couple of days later.

Let's take a spin and where better than Winchester, Albion's ancient powerhouse and the only city in England with an average council tax band of H.

Starting this monster couldn't be easier. One press of the key fob to unlock, a few flicks of the gold-plated artisan crank handle (stick it in the front grill) and we're away, my Arse surging off very nicely into the High Street.

Volva driver etiquette prevented me from indicating or looking before entering the flow of traffic.

'Just barge in' states page 1 of Volva's alternate Highway Code (clothbound in the glove). Once under way the ride is solid and smooth. Driver seat positioning is comfortably higher than everyone else on the road, making looking down at them a simple and necessary pleasure. I quickly discovered a nice touch from the safety team: the PSA - Proximity Sensor Alarm. It starts hooting should you let the vehicle in front pull more than a metre away from the Volva's menacing front end. This helps the tired driver maintain a suitably small gap, and prevents cut-ins or any kind of driver character weakness such as politeness or friendly road companionship.

Time to explore the cabin. Seal-hide upholstered seats with Volva's patented Enhanced Drive Behavioural Shock Therapy seat inserts. From the recently acquired Pavlov Industries this is pure genius: a rear-facing dash cam continually scans my huge plate face and clumsy body movements. The moment there's a flicker of a smile, or the hint of that twitch just before a little thank-you wave, the seat administers a 200 volt butt-shock to remind me just who the bloody hell I am and the responsibility I have to the community of Arse drivers. But it gets better. Try a middle finger or other focussed hand signs and you get a warm rewarding vibration. The feature is programmable and I found settings for passive-alooof, active-alooof, fund manager, micro-celebrity and smug.

Jermyn's Verdict

All in all, a tasty tank. Threat on wheels. Unnecessarily massive, with room enough for 3 horses, 2 nannies and one of those push chairs with three wheels.

SMALL ADS



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Travel advisory: Wintonians travelling abroad should exercise a high degree of empathy. Be nice, don't gloat, give hugs, buy rounds of hot chocolate. Just imagine how you would feel if you lived anywhere else 🇺🇸🇬🇧

🇬🇧❤️🇺🇸

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We love and respect women and celebrated Women's Day along with everyone else. But now Women's Day has finished, welcome to the 364 days of Men's Day.

#InternationalWomansDay
#saudiArabia

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