



## Back To The Future: Vintage Rover P3 On TV

By Guy Worrall

Here's a short story about my P3 being filmed for a recent Landrover TV documentary.

It all started with a phone call from Mike Maher, Chairman of the Rover Sports Register. He wanted to know if Landrover could use my 1949 P3 in a TV documentary about Landrovers due to be filmed at the Landrover factory in Solihull, This is also the same factory site where my P3 was built sixty years ago and so, of course, my interest was aroused immediately.



The following day I rang up the film crew and made the arrangements to go the next week to the Landrover factory so my car could take part in the filming of the documentary for TV.

As an aside another reason for my interest in this project was the presenter, a guy called Chris Barrie, an actor well known for his appearances in the 70s series Red Dwarf in which he played the hologram member of the crew you may have seen this in the States.

On the day of the filming we arrived at the factory where we were directed to the area where we would be meeting with the film crew and Chris Barrie. Our arrival created quite a stir with many people keen to have a look at the vintage car.

We were soon introduced to Chris who is a classic car nut. He owns quite a collection of Jaguars but was very impressed with my P3.

The director then told me what he wanted to do with the car. When everyone was in place the filming started with Chris driving up to the main entrance to the main office block which is the original Rover company offices. You can still see what is left of the paint from World War II

camouflage on the building. Various shots were taken including Chris driving and talking by the main doors.

Then it was time for the main event with the P3 being filmed driving along public roads with Chris at the wheel following behind the camera car. They had the sun roof opened so Chris could be seen easily through the car's windscreen.



About an hour later Chris and the film crew returned without any mishaps and full of praise for the P3 and how well it drove. They commented it was obviously well built in 1949.

At this time we were invited to have lunch with the team. After that Landrover took us on a trip around their off road course in a new Rover Discovery. What a machine it is! It's amazing where they can go with it. This was a pleasing end to a wonderful day.

My senses were on overdrive most of the day as this was my car's first visit back to the factory where it was built in 1949. I was even shown the bays in the factory where it was assembled when new. Now this area is part of the Landrover Discovery Track.

You may be asking why did my car get used in the TV filming when the subject was about early Landrovers? They wanted an example of the cars Rover was building at the same time so I was in luck to own the P3 75 Sports saloon they wanted and to have it be available for the TV documentary.

