

Chopard's Mille Miglia chronographs come in five racing colours



TRUE COLOURS

Chopard is celebrating its 30th anniversary as sponsor of Italy's Mille Miglia classic car rally with a range of five Racing Colours chronographs featuring dials in hues synonymous with some of the main competing countries – i.e. British racing green; speed yellow (Belgium); rosso corsa (Italy); vintage blue (France) and speed silver (Germany). Just 300 of each colour will be produced, all on calfskin straps with a tyre tread rubber backing. The watches are available individually for £4,730 or as five-piece sets, but can only be bought from Chopard boutiques. chopard.com



Jaeger Le-Coultre's Polaris is based on a 1968 original

BACK IN TIME

The famous American typeface designer Frederic Goudy once sagely observed that 'the old fellows stole all of our best ideas'. He was talking about the difficulty of creating a fresh font at the time, but his remark could well have been applied to today's watchmaking industry which relies heavily on the ideas of the 'old fellows' – as demonstrated in the new Polaris range from Jaeger-LeCoultre which is based on a 1968 dive watch with a mechanical alarm. JLC has adapted the design to create five new Polaris models comprising a 1,000-piece limited-edition alarm version, two automatics (date and no date) a chronograph and a world time chronograph. From £5,750. jaegerlecoultre.com

A WRISTY BUSINESS »

It's said that Louis Cartier created the first proper wristwatch for men in 1904 after his daredevil aviator chum Alberto Santos-Dumont complained that, with both hands on the controls of his flying machine, he just couldn't get hold of his pocket watch.

Cartier solved the problem by supplying the Brazilian flyboy with a fumble-free 'wristlet' watch – and seven years later put his invention into production under the name of Santos. The Santos has been part of the Cartier inventory ever since, and this year gets a makeover in new large and medium versions in a choice of steel, gold, or steel and gold cases. Multiple, quick-change strap variations are also offered, along with Cartier's Smartlink easily adjustable bracelet. Prices range from £5,350 for a medium in steel to £54,500 for a skeletonised version in gold. cartier.com



This year's Santos gets a makeover



Nomos Glashütte's Neomatik Autobahn sports watch

« NOMOS-ING ABOUT

Minimalist German brand Nomos has called on the talents of Berlin-based furniture designer and interior architect Werner Aisslinger to pen a new addition to its Neomatik line, the result being this eye-catching, 41mm sports watch called Autobahn. The crescent-shaped relief that decorates the dial is said to have been inspired by elements of car design from the '60s and '70s and is treated with Superluminova to make it glow in the dark. White on grey, white on blue and blue on grey combinations are available, all at £3,800. Which reminds me – I must dig out that Kraftwerk album... nomos-glashuette.com